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CONTENTS

Near East & South Asia

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MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 June Middle East and South Asia Review ..... AA 1

EGYPT

Mubarak Interview on Middle East Relations Cited *[Jeddah AL-MAJALLAH 24 Jun]* ..... C 1
Saudi Minister Departs 21 Jun ..... C 1
Foreign Minister, Israeli Envoy on Peace Process ..... C 1
Kenyan Foreign Minister, Delegation Begin Visit ..... C 1
Talks Begin 21 Jun ..... C 2
Received by Mubarak ..... C 2
Talks Held With Mubarak ..... C 2
Received by Foreign Minister ..... C 2
Sudanese State Council Member Arrives 21 Jun ..... C 2
Meets With Foreign Minister *[SUNA]* ..... C 2
Umah, Liberal Parties Support Mubarak Nomination ..... C 3
Labor Union Federation's Chairman Resigns ..... C 3

LIBYA

USSR's Kondakov, Military Delegation Begin Visit ..... D 1
Jallud Briefs Al-Qadhdhafi on Algiers Visit ..... D 1
Romanian Defense Official Arrives on Visit ..... D 1
Official Received by Commander ..... D 1
Delegation Departs 23 Jun ..... D 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Syrian, PLO Officials ..... D 1

SUDAN

Special Committee Formed on September Law Reform ..... G 1
Finance Minister Presents New Budget to Assembly ..... G 1
EPLF Official Meets With Minister, Party Figures *[Voice of Broad Masses]* ..... G 1

TUNISIA

Trials of Fundamentalist Supporters Continue *[Paris]* ..... H 1
Planning, Finance Minister on 5-Year Plan, Debts *[Al-Dammam AL-YAWM 20 Jun]* ..... H 1
Prime Minister Begins Working Visit to France *[cross-reference]* ..... H 1
Socialist Party's Sfar Returns From Paris ..... H 1
President Appoints Acting Foreign Minister ..... H 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Turkish Tanker Hit in Gulf; 7 Crewmen Injured *[Ankara]* ..... J 1

KUWAIT

Shaykh Sabah's Activities, Statements Cited ..... J 1
Urges Stand on Iran's Threats ..... J 1
Comments on Al-Shariqah Affair ..... J 1
Departs on Tour of GCC Nations ..... J 2

PDRY

Further Reportage on YSP Congress Proceedings ..... J 2
Al-Bid Gives Press Conference ..... J 2
Al-Bid Receives USSR Official ..... J 2
Central Committee Changes Made ..... J 3

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Further Reports on Leadership Crisis in Sharjah ..... J 4
New Ruler Rejects Conditions *[Kuwait AL-SIYASAH 23 Jun]* ..... J 4
Sharjah Rivals Reconciled ..... J 4
Consultations Continuing ..... J 5
Paper Notes Solution Welcomed *[AL-ITTIHAD 22 Jun]* ..... J 5

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Somali President Siad Barre Makes Official Visit ..... J 5
Arrives 21 Jun ..... J 5
Somali Minister on Visit ..... J 5
Salih, Siad Barre Hold Talks ..... J 6
Joint Communique Issued ..... J 6
Siad Barre Concludes Visit ..... J 8

IRAQ

Gulf Conflict Battlefront Reports Continue ..... K 1
Communique No 2,719 Issued ..... K 1
Spokesman Denies Plane Downed ..... K 1
Iranian Combat Claims Denied ..... K 1
'Large Maritime Target' Struck ..... K 1

ISRAEL

Shamir: No Change in Soviet Policy Toward Jews *[HA'ARETZ 23 Jun]* ..... L 1
Belin Says No Soviet Assurances on Reciprocity *[THE JERUSALEM POST 23 Jun]* ..... L 1
Rabin Comments on Soviet Efforts at Regional Role ..... L 1
Kenyan President Said Not To Favor Resuming Ties ..... L 1
Foreign Ministry Denies Meeting ..... L 1
Weizman Wants Explanation for Waldheim Invitation ..... L 1
Ya'aqobi Comments on U.S. Talks on Peace Process ..... L 2
Paris Paper Interviews Israeli Defense Minister *[LIBERATION 20-21 Jun]* ..... L 2
Bomb Wounds 10 in Gaza; 'Extremists' Suspected ..... L 4
Strike in Arab Sector; West Bank Schools Closed ..... L 4

LEBANON

'Ali 'Usayran, Aide Released; Glass Still Held ..... N 1
Glass Fate 'Unknown' *[RFL]* ..... N 1
'Usayran, Driver Go To Sidon ..... N 1
'Ali 'Usayran Not Talking *[RFL]* ..... N 1
'Usayran Held by Iranians *[RFL]* ..... N 1
'Usayran Knows Kidnappers *[VOL]* ..... N 1
Violence in Southern Suburb Continues ..... N 1
Hizballah Alerts Gunmen *[VOL]* ..... N 1
Hizballah Denies Kidnapping ..... N 1
Syria Rotates Forces *[VOL]* ..... N 2
Security Plan Being Prepared *[VOL]* ..... N 2
Iran's Envoy on Southern Suburb *[RFL]* ..... N 2
British Ambassador Comments on Hostages *[VOL]* ..... N 2

Amal Official Hamiyah Escapes Assassination ..... N 2
Lebanese Forces Urge 'Charter of Liberation' *[RFL]* ..... N 2
PSP Official Held by Syrians Reportedly Killed *[VOL]* ..... N 3
Gunmen Kill Army Captain in Tyre District ..... N 3

SYRIA

King Husayn Arrives, Meets Al-Asad 24 Jun *[Amman]* ..... O 1
Al-Asad Receives Kuwaiti Minister 23 Jun ..... O 1
Reportage on CSSR Foreign Minister's Visit ..... O 1
Statement Upon Arrival ..... O 1
Meets With Prime Minister ..... O 1
Begins Talks With Al-Shar' ..... O 1
Solidarity Teams Meet ..... O 2
Khaddam Returns Home After Algeria, Libya Visits ..... O 2

AFGHANISTAN

AFP: Diplomats Confirm Downing of Second AN-26 ..... P 1
Najibullah, Keshtmand Attend Journalists' Meeting ..... P 1
Najibullah Speaks on Defense of Islam ..... P 1

INDIA

Tiwari Briefs Committee on PRC Talks, U.S. Ties ..... R 1
USSR To Help Construct Hydroelectric Complex ..... R 1
Relief Supply Ship Sails for Sri Lanka ..... R 1
BJP To Abstain From Presidential Election ..... R 1
Congress-I Reviews Haryana Election Upset ..... R 2
Haryana Chief Demands New Elections in Punjab ..... R 2
3 Killed in Continuing Punjab Violence ..... R 2
BJP Leader Killed ..... R 2
Gurkha-Sponsored Strike Continues in West Bengal ..... R 2
Police Sent to Darjeeling ..... R 2

IRAN

IRGC Official Suggests USSR Behind 'Stark' Attack ..... S 1
Syrian Charge Delivers Al-Shar' Message ..... S 1
Musavi Criticizes UN Security Council Response ..... S 1
Tehran Comments on UN Security Council Agreement ..... S 1
Khomeyni Approves Relief Committee Manifesto ..... S 2
Khamene'i Speaks at Islamic Propagation Meeting ..... S 2
Musavi Addresses Tafresh Residents 23 June ..... S 3
'Deputy Leader' Montazeri Speaks in Qom ..... S 3
Ayatollah Meshkini Assails Kuwaiti 'Mischief' ..... S 4
Mines, Metals Minister Leaves for Bulgaria ..... S 4
Tehran Cautions Turkey Against 'Secular Circles' ..... S 4
Continuing Reportage on Operations Against Iraq ..... S 5
Kurds Attack Convoy Near Irbil ..... S 5
Guards Storm Iraqi Positions ..... S 5
Kurds Attack Battalion Near Arbat ..... S 5
Iraqi Battalion 'Destroyed' ..... S 5
Communique No 2,876 ..... S 5
Iraqi Helicopter Downed ..... S 6
Iraqi Counterattack 'Smashed' ..... S 6

INDIA

Continuing Reportage on Visit of PRC Premier ..... R 1
Calls on President Ziaul Haq ..... R 1

More on Zhao-Ziaul Haq Talks ..... R 1
Donation for Afghan Refugees ..... R 1
Concludes Visit, Departs 24 Jun ..... R 1
PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang Arrives for Visit *[cross-reference]* ..... R 2
National Assembly Adopts Amended Budget Proposals ..... R 2

SRI LANKA

Sinhalese Group on Government 'Capitulation' *[AFP]* ..... W 1
Foreign Ministry Announces Indian Freighter Visit ..... W 1
Separatists Announce Cease-Fire *[AFP]* ..... W 1
Cease-Fire Details Cited *[AFP]* ..... W 2
Police Arrest 120 Members of Proscribed Party ..... W 2
Security Minister Interviewed on Tamil Conflict *[Bonn DIE WELT 25 Jun]* ..... W 2

24 June Middle East and South Asia Review

LD241314 [Editorial Report]

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian fighter bombers shot down an Iraqi helicopter over Bushehr port after it attacked a foreign commercial ship, IRNA reported. Ankara radio confirmed that a Turkish tanker was hit as it sailed out to sea after unloading at Bushehr port. For Iraq's part, a military spokesman cited by INA announced that Iraqi naval units destroyed a "big naval target" attempting to enter Iran's Bandar-e Khomeyni port 23 June. The attack was carried out in implementation of Iraq's resolve to cut off Iran's supplies.

An Iraqi military spokesman also denied an Iranian claim that an Iraqi warplane was shot down 23 June, INA reported. The spokesman affirmed that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base after carrying out missions on the battle fronts. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA had claimed Iran shot down "another" Iraqi warplane in the Panjwin area. The communique also said Iran "smashed" an Iraqi operation in Mehran, killing 50 enemy soldiers.

In a report on continued fighting in Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyah Province, IRNA stated that a guerrilla operation launched jointly with Iraqi Kurds captured an Iraqi commando base near Arbat. The agency also noted that foreign journalists have been invited to visit areas in northern Iraq "liberated" in the "Nasr-4" operations, including Mawut.

The "Nasr-4" operations in northern Iraq were both a reply to recent events and a warning to those who are planning to resort to unwise acts, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said in remarks cited by Tehran radio. Iraq's resumption of "atrocities" in the Gulf and "crimes" against the Kurds, as well as the "conspicuous movements" of the UN Security Council needed a single response and a "serious warning," the speaker asserted, noting that Iran still does not know the details of the planned UN "moves" even though it is the main party concerned. A Tehran radio commentary addressed the issue of the UN peace plan, saying Iran considers the Security Council's resolutions "unacceptable and biased toward the Iraqi regime." Unless the council sheds "its murky past" and names the aggressor in the war, any decision it makes will receive "a decisive answer" on the battle fronts.

Lebanon

The release of 'Adil 'Usayran was announced by Beirut radio and other local stations 24 June. The kidnappers also released 'Usayran's driver, but the fate of U.S. journalist Charles Glass is unknown save that he is alive, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon, earlier denied reports that Syria had set a deadline for the release of the three hostages, but he said Syria would do whatever necessary to arrive at a satisfactory outcome, according to Voice of National Resistance radio.

Regarding the position adopted by Iran and Hizballah, Radio Free Lebanon said the Iranian ambassador has stressed Iran's view that Hizballah and the southern suburb should not come under Syrian control. Hizballah has warned that the Syrians will only enter the suburb "on the dead bodies of its fighters," Voice of Lebanon stated.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad began talks with Jordan's King Husayn after the latter arrived on a short working visit to Syria 24 June, Amman radio reported. The radio said the visit is part of the regular consultations and coordination between "the two great leaders" aimed at achieving Arab solidarity.

Al-Asad had earlier received the Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, who conveyed a message from the Kuwaiti amir, Damascus radio reported. In other diplomatic developments reported by the radio, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm met with the visiting CSSR foreign minister, while Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam conveyed messages from Al-Asad to the leaders of Algeria and Libya during brief visits to their countries.

Al-Shariqah Reconciliation

A UAE Supreme Council statement broadcast by Abu Dhabi radio expressed pleasure over the UAE leadership's success in extinguishing the "fire of sedition" and reuniting the two Al-Qasimi brothers "along the path of love and full sincerity." Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad and his brother Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz met face to face and had a "warm brotherly embrace" during a 23 June UAE Supreme Council session in Al-'Ayn, the statement noted. It added that the Council ratified Shaykh Sultan's decision to appoint 'Abd al-'Aziz both heir apparent and deputy ruler of Al-Shariqah. 'Abd al-'Aziz will also be deputy chairman of the Al-Shariqah Executive Council and will attend UAE Supreme Council sessions in his capacity as heir apparent.

Among earlier reportage on the crisis, the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Siyasah* published details of proposals and counter proposals suggested by 'Abd al-'Aziz and by the special committee set up by the Supreme Council to solve the dispute. While one of the conditions stipulated by 'Abd al-'Aziz was that he be appointed commander of the Al-Shariqah palace guards, the committee had proposed that the guards be incorporated into the UAE armed forces.

Israel

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres was "very pleased" with his talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, noting that understanding was reached over most of the points raised, Jerusalem radio reported. Thatcher promised to report on her talk with Peres during her forthcoming meetings with Jordan's King Husayn and with President Reagan.

Egypt

One of two Libyan airplanes whose return Libya has demanded has already been returned to Libya, President Husni Mubarak affirmed in an interview with the Saudi magazine *Al-Majallah* cited by MENA. The other will be handed over only after Egyptians being detained in Libya are released. Mubarak also commented on relations with the United States, noting that his country is "not satisfied" with the U.S. handling of the debts issue.

Mubarak Interview on Middle East Relations Cited

NC232100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1922 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jun (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has stated that Egyptian-Saudi relations are strong. He also noted that the "Saudi Arabia, Yesterday and Today" exhibition, which he inaugurated in the presence of Riyadh Governor Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, testifies to the firmness of these relations and the continuation of our contacts.

In an exclusive interview with the Saudi Arabian magazine *Al-Majallah*, which will be published tomorrow, Wednesday, President Mubarak said that he is very pleased with Egyptian-Saudi relations and their progress. The president discussed a number of world and Arab issues, as well as Egypt's internal situation during the interview.

When asked whether he believed that foreign influences were behind the recent terrorist acts, President Mubarak declared: There may be those who do not want to see stability in our region. These elements may have interests in the area and perceive terrorism as an important means of attaining their goals. The president noted that in recent incidents, evidence indicated that some of the culprits involved had received training in foreign countries. He added that the Egyptian people renounce all forms of terrorism and are not passive in dealing with terrorists. However, they were stunned by having such incidents, which are alien to their nature, occur in their country. President Mubarak noted that the nation's extremist currents are terrorist rather than religious in nature, and that terrorism is an international feature not confined to Egypt alone.

After being asked about press speculation that prices may rise within the next few months, the president replied It is speculation such as this that raises prices. For our part, we only remove subsidies on commodities that can sustain such an action. The president stressed that any decisions in this regard must benefit the poorer classes.

President Mubarak reviewed Egypt's position on the Palestinian issue, stressing that he will not abandon this people's cause. He added that there is complete cooperation between Egypt and Jordan on this matter.

As for a recent Israeli proposal on holding a regional conference to resolve the Middle East crisis, a convocation which would not include the superpowers, President Mubarak remarked that Israel had accepted the idea of an international conference. He noted that the then Israeli Prime Minister Peres had voiced this acceptance during a visit to Egypt. Mubarak stated that a regional conference would be attended by the nations but would not include the United States and the USSR. However, he added: We believe the two superpowers' attendance would be a political guarantee for a solution.

Asked about a report by the Yemeni news agency that the YAR is mediating between Egypt and Libya to resolve the issue of the two [Libyan] aircraft and other problems relating to Egyptian workers expelled from Libya, President Mubarak replied: Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has stressed the importance of the aircraft, and we have already returned one of the two planes. We have stipulated that Egyptians detained in Libya must be returned before we hand over the second plane.

President Mubarak also commented on Egyptian-U.S. relations by describing them as "very normal." However, he noted that Egypt is not satisfied with the way the United States is working with his nation on the issue of debts. He said: We are discussing a solution. The president also referred to relations with the USSR by describing them as very good.

Al-Majallah introduced its interview of Mubarak with a report on the visit to Egypt by Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the brother of King Fahd and the governor of Riyadh. The magazine also reported on the inauguration of the highly significant "Saudi Arabia, Yesterday and Today" exhibition.

Al-Majallah noted that Egypt — as represented by its president, its political figures from the left, right, and center, and its Muslims and Copts — welcomed the visiting Saudis and Prince Salman. The prince's visit exemplified the good relationship between Riyadh and Cairo. This rapport has been a distinctive and exciting factor in the Arab world since the mid-1940's.

Saudi Minister Departs 21 Jun

NC211117 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jun (MENA) — Ibrahim al-'Anqari, Saudi minister of municipal and rural affairs, departed Cairo for home this afternoon after having attended Wednesday's [17 June] opening of the "Saudi Arabia, Yesterday and Today" exhibition. He was seen off by As'ad Abu al-Nasr, the Saudi charge d'affaires in Egypt.

Foreign Minister, Israeli Envoy on Peace Process

NC231459 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1444 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jun (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, stressed the need for all parties involved with conflict in the Middle East to provide an appropriate climate for the proposed international peace conference. He stated that this was the only practical framework for negotiations to achieve a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid made this statement during an audience today with Israeli Ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sason. During their meeting, the two officials discussed current contacts aimed at reviving the Middle East peace process.

Kenyan Foreign Minister, Delegation Begin Visit

NC210838 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 21 Jun (MENA) — Zacharia Onyonka, Kenyan minister for foreign affairs, arrived in Cairo early this morning. He heads a delegation that includes representatives from various Kenyan ministries, and his official visit will last 5 days.

Following his arrival, the Kenyan minister stated that his visit

takes place within the framework of meetings of the joint Egyptian-Kenyan Ministerial Committee. This committee, which was established by Presidents Husni Mubarak and Daniel arap Moi in February 1974, meets once a year in either Nairobi or Cairo to strengthen bilateral relations. The Kenyan minister added that he carries a personal written message from his president to President Mubarak. [passage omitted]

Talks Begin 21 Jun

NC211945 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] The first session of the joint Egyptian-Kenyan committee took place at the Foreign Ministry this evening. This session was chaired by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Zacharia Onyonka, Kenyan minister for foreign affairs.

The ministers discussed current African issues, as well as coordinating the two countries' stands in preparation for the African foreign ministers' meeting and the African summit conference scheduled to be held in Addis Ababa next month. The two ministers also reviewed developments in the Middle East in light of Egypt's efforts to strengthen the peace process. Dr Ghali stressed that Egypt is working to establish a comprehensive, just, and durable peace for the region.

Bilateral relations and methods to promote them were also discussed. The conferees decided that both nations should establish technical committees to study ways of increasing Egyptian-Kenyan cooperation in various fields.

At the conclusion of the committee's meetings on Thursday, the two ministers will sign agreements on tourism and cultural matters. A joint communique will be issued on the Kenyan minister for foreign affairs' talks with officials in Cairo.

Received by Mubarak

NC221205 Cairo MENA in English 0940 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, June 22 (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak received this morning the Kenyan foreign minister, who arrived here yesterday for an official five-day visit to Egypt.

The meeting was attended by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali.

Talks Held With Mubarak

NC221319 Cairo MENA in English 1230 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, June 22 (MENA) — Kenyan Foreign Minister Zacharia Onyonka, said following his meeting today with President Husni Mubarak that he carried to the president greetings of President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya.

He further said he had talks with the president on the situation in Africa and bilateral relations.

He said he will work for developing the current programme of cooperation between the two countries.

Meanwhile, Dr. Butrus Ghali who took part in the meeting said President Mubarak reviewed with the Kenyan foreign minister a number of African issues, particularly the situation in South Africa.

He termed the talks as positive and that the Egyptian and the Kenyan diplomacy work jointly for realizing stability and economic development in Africa.

A number of technical agreements for activating economic, cultural, and technical cooperation between the two countries will be signed and a joint communique will be issued on the joint meetings of the Egyptian-Kenyan committee.

Received by Foreign Minister

NC231533 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, met today with the Kenyan minister for foreign affairs. They reviewed the situation in Africa, particularly in the continent's southern region, and exchanged views on African problems, ways to maintain stability, and how to resolve differences within an African context.

They also discussed arrangements for the upcoming African summit, which will be held in Addis Ababa late next month. [passage omitted]

Sudanese State Council Member Arrives 21 Jun

NC211242 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Jun (MENA) — Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, member of the Sudanese State Council, arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 10-day visit to Egypt. He said that while in Egypt he will convey two verbal messages to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. One message is from Ahmad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, the chairman of Sudan's State Council, and the other is from Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. Taj al-Din will also convey a verbal message from Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to Dr 'Atif Sidqi, the latter's Egyptian counterpart.

Commenting on the abrogation of the September laws, Dr Taj al-Din said that this move should not be viewed as an annulment of the Islamic shari'ah. The national government, he said, will soon issue laws outlining alternatives for religious coexistence among the Sudanese. Taj al-Din also noted that there are no Libyan forces in western Sudan.

Meets With Foreign Minister

JN221817 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jun (SUNA) — All aspects of relations between Sudan and Egypt and issues of common concern were discussed here today. This was announced by Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din,

member of the Sudanese State Council, after his meeting with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, in Cairo today.

Taj al-Din stated that ways to strengthen relations between the two countries in various fields are being discussed based on the brotherhood charter the two nations signed last February. He added that meetings between officials of the two countries will soon take place that typify brotherhood in institutions that contribute to the two peoples' interests and prosperity.

In answering a correspondent's question on Sudanese-Ethiopian relations, Taj al-din declared: We do not interfere in Ethiopia's internal affairs, and we hope that they will do the same for us. He also said that Egypt will play a role in this regard. When asked about the situation in southern Sudan, Taj al-Din replied that this is a regional problem, one which needs a concerted effort within a Sudanese framework to eliminate negative past results and to achieve religious coexistence. He also pointed out that the new government is trying to overcome Sudan's economic crisis and to eliminate negative results of the past.

Umah, Liberal Parties Support Mubarak Nomination

NC2216S1 Cairo MENA in English 1639 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, June 22 (MENA) — The Umma Party under its leader Ahmad al-Sabbahi has announced that it supports the renomination of President Husni Mubarak for a second term of presidency.

The opposition Liberal Party had published today in its organ *"Al-Ahrar"* that it has decided to back President Mubarak's nomination for another term.

Labor Union Federation's Chairman Resigns

NC202133 Cairo MENA in English 2115 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, June 20 (MENA) — The resignation of Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, board chairman of General Federation of the Labor Unions, who has been keeping this post since July 1977, was accepted this evening at an emergency sitting of the federation's board of directors.

The board designated Mukhtar 'Abd al-Hamid, the federation's deputy chairman, to take over the chairmanship till completion of the current unionist session next November.

This evening's board sitting, which considered the resignation, was held under 'Abd al-Hamid and attended by board members and chairmen of trade unions.

A declaration was made at the sitting that Ahmad had tendered the resignation for health reasons.

Manpower and Training Minister 'Asim 'Abd al-Haq attended the sitting in his capacity as member of the board of directors of the federation.

USSR's Kondakov, Military Delegation Begin Visit

LD241158 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1110 Gmt 24 Jun 87

[Text] Lieutenant General Yevgeniy Kondakov, chief of the 10th Directorate of the Soviet Armed Forces General Staff, arrived in Tripoli this morning at the head of a Soviet military delegation.

Lt Gen Kondakov expressed his happiness at visiting the Great Jamahiriyah, stressing in a statement to JANA that this visit is to promote the two countries' existing cooperation.

Jallud Briefs Al-Qadhdhafi on Algiers Visit

LD192124 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received the unionist working group led by Staff Major Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud following their return from fraternal Algeria. The meeting was attended by the brother secretary general of the General People's Committee and the brother secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and the delegation accompanying him presented the brother leader with the results of the unionist meeting between the brothers from the Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria. This meeting resulted from the I-N-Amenas and Sirte meetings between the brother leader of the revolution and President Chadli Bendjedid; the joint unionist programs agreed upon by the two brotherly countries; and the practical future foundations within the effective practice and application of union between the two brotherly countries at the political, economic, and legislative levels.

Staff Maj Jallud also submitted to the brother leader of the revolution the political document which was studied by the Arab Libyan and Algerian sides and which relates to unity between the two brotherly countries. It has been decided that this document will be submitted to the two revolutions' leaderships to begin implementing unity between the two countries. This will thus meet the aspirations of their Arab people as a fundamental step toward comprehensive Arab unity.

Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud also briefed the brother leader of the revolution on the joint agreements signed during the 4 days of unionist proceedings held in Algiers. Future meetings agreed upon will gather the two brotherly countries' legislative and executive authorities and specialized bodies in various fields. The achievements of the joint working groups in the political, executive, and legislative sectors will also be studied.

Romanian Defense Official Arrives on Visit

LD182106 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Romanian Deputy Defense Minister Major General Victor Ananasi [name and title as heard] and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli at noon today on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Maj Gen Victor Ananasi made a statement to a JANA correspondent praising the development of the friendship and cooperation which bind the two friendly peoples of Libya and Romania. He said that these relations, the foundations for which were laid by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Romanian President Ceausescu, play a great role in developing and consolidating these relations.

He added that the meetings taking place between our two friendly countries prove that existing relations are strong and serve the two countries' mutual aims and interests.

Official Received by Commander

LD202010 Tripoli JANA in English 1804 GMT 20 Jun 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Sayf [June] 20, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces received General Victor Atanas, the first deputy of the Romanian defense minister [name and title as received], who is on a visit to Great Jamahiriyah.

Delegation Departs 23 Jun

LD231755 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Tripoli 23 Jun [Dateline as received] — Lieutenant General Victor Stanculescu [name as received], Romanian first deputy defense minister, and the delegation accompanying him departed Tripoli early this afternoon following their visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Syrian, PLO Officials

LD232031 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today received Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. He later received Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the PFLP-GC.

Yesterday, the brother leader of the revolution received Ahmad Jibril, along with Ya'qub Tal'at, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front; Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] and Abu Khalid of the Fatah movement; and Mustafa Ma'ruf Sa'd, secretary general of the Nasirite Popular Movement; and brothers Naji 'Allush and Abu 'Ali Busays.

Special Committee Formed on September Law Reform

EA232125 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Mr Idris al-Banna, acting chairman of the Head of State Council, has announced the decision to form a smaller committee to submit recommendations to the Head of State Council. These recommendations will concern those persons sentenced under the September laws and now currently imprisoned.

A meeting was held yesterday in the Republican Palace. It was attended by Messrs Idris al-Banna, acting chairman of the Head of State Council; Muhammad al-Hasan Abdullah Yasin and Dr Pacifico Lado Lolik, members of the council; Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi; Chief Justice Muhammad Mirghani Mabruk; Attorney General 'Abd al-Mahmud al-Haj Salih; and counsellors of the Head of State Council. Mr Idris al-Banna said the meeting dealt with the fate of those sentenced and imprisoned under the September laws, which were frozen by the transitional government. It was up to the Head of State Council to make a decision regarding these people, in light of the government's intent to replace these laws with new laws to fulfill the citizens' demands for change. He added that the meeting established a committee that will submit recommendations to the council concerning those persons who have now been imprisoned for long periods.

The attorney general explained that the committee is a special body that will submit recommendations to the Head of State Council after reviewing the fate of those sentenced to death, punishment, [words indistinct].

Finance Minister Presents New Budget to Assembly

JN200624 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 19 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Jun (SUNA) — Revenues for the new fiscal year, 1987-88, totaled 3.9 billion pounds, while expenditures amounted to 6.7 billion pounds, thus producing a 2.8 billion-pound deficit.

This was announced by Dr Bashir 'Umar, minister of finance and economy, who read the budget statement at the Constituent Assembly last night. The minister pointed out that the deficit, which totals 2.885 billion pounds, will be covered by foreign loans and commodities aid totaling 1.807 billion pounds from development appropriations of 572 million pounds, and from local appropriations of 248 million pounds. He pointed out that the budget will thus be balanced with no deficit.

Dr Bashir 'Umar noted that when the new budget was prepared, the positive and negative aspects of last year's budget were taken into account. He added that the new budget is specifically based on monitoring productivity and increasing its levels, since this is the basis for restoring a balanced budget. He pointed out that allocations have been set aside to bolster production and increase allocations to the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Animal Wealth. It has also been decided to repair and rehabilitate [word indistinct], support the transportation sector, prepare a program to reform institutions, and provide allocations for regional development.

Dr Bashir 'Umar added that these principles give top priority to security and to meeting the Armed Forces' and the police's needs. This is due to these institutions major role in protecting and ensuring the homeland's security. Other policies include giving attention to services such as health, education, water, and electricity; providing basic commodities at reasonable prices; and subsidizing important commodities such as sugar and flour. This is in addition to reforming the administrative structure to increase efficiency, rectify relations between districts and regions, and prepare a study to establish a national planning council responsible for preparing a salvation and development plan.

The government had proposed establishing a national planning council from the economic sector's ministries and the affected economic quarters, and formed committees to study this plan. It issued a number of recommendations in this regard. The bases defined by the minister included establishing an information bank to collect and analyze information on the national economy in a scientific manner.

Upon reviewing the budget figures, the minister said that local revenues amounted to 2.8 billion pounds in the 1986-87 budget. They are expected to increase to 3.8 billion pounds in next year's budget. Dr Bashir 'Umar indicated that this increase will come from direct taxes. The increase in tax revenue will be achieved by enlarging the tax base, from indirect taxes collected by increasing imports, and from production taxes.

EPLF Official Meets With Minister, Party Figures

EA212335 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic
0500 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Comrade Uthman Muhammad Umar, member of the EPLF Central Committee and head of the EPLF's foreign relations in Sudan, met and held talks with Brigadier General Fadlallah Nasir Burmah, the Sudanese minister of state for defense. Comrade Uthman and the Sudanese minister held extensive talks on conditions in their respective countries.

It will be recalled that the EPLF delegation led by Comrade Uthman Muhammad Umar earlier met and held discussions with the Ummah Party secretary and the head of the National Islamic Front's foreign relations section. The officials of the two parties gave assurances that both parties will stand alongside the Eritrean people and their liberation struggle, and pledged they will make efforts so the Eritrean people receive more support from the Sudanese people and government.

Trials of Fundamentalist Supporters Continue

LD181633 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Summary] The trials of supporters of the fundamentalist movement are continuing in Tunisia. Yesterday, four students were sentenced to terms of between 1 and 4 years imprisonment for demonstrating without permission on a public highway.

At the same time, the Islamic Tendency Movement, an opposition movement not recognized by the government, has issued a communique denying the accusations that have been made against it for some time now. These accusations are terrorism and collaboration with Iran with a view to destabilizing the Tunisian Government.

Planning, Finance Minister on 5-Year Plan, Debts

JN220752 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic 20 Jun 87 p 6

[Interview with Ismail Khelil, minister of planning and finance, by correspondent Salim Ahmad in Tunis — date not given]

[Excerpts] [Ahmad] Reports indicate that Arab and, more specifically, Gulf investments are being withdrawn from Tunisia. Is this true, and why would this happen?

[Khelil] This is not true, because Tunisian-Gulf cooperation is a model cooperation to be copied by other Arab countries. I would like to clarify the issue here. There were no withdrawals of Arab funds from Tunisia. On the contrary, Tunisia enjoys the support of various Arab funds such as the Saudi and Kuwaiti development funds, the Arab Fund for Technical Assistance, and the Islamic Bank. [passage omitted]

[Ahmad] Tunisia recently addressed European countries and held meetings in Paris, London, and Rome. What topics were discussed during these meetings and what results were achieved?

[Khelil] The purpose of these meetings was to inform various public and private financial parties and investment institutions about the development climate and investment opportunities in Tunisia, especially in light of the reform program initiated last summer. [passage omitted]

[Ahmad] What are the features of the new 5-year plan and what are the major economic and social objectives it seeks to attain?

[Khelil] We will pursue our development strategy under the plan to achieve noticeable economic growth and to create new job opportunities while controlling our financial budget on the domestic and foreign level. The growth rate is expected to be within the range of 4 percent. We will also seek to create at least 250,000 new job opportunities, curb inflation, and control public and private spending. [passage omitted]

[Ahmad] What about Tunisia's debts? Has the Tunisian Government considered rescheduling its debts?

[Khelil] We believe that foreign debt and the servicing of these debts have increased over the past years. However, Tunisia's debt remains within reasonable limits since it does not exceed 58.7 percent of the gross national product. This is a rate which calls for caution but not anxiety. Most of these debts, that is 60 percent of them, are long-term ones. As for the remaining 40 percent, they are short- and medium-term debts. [passage omitted]

The Tunisian Government at present has no intention of asking for debt rescheduling. Thanks to the support we enjoy from several countries and from financial quarters, we succeeded in securing the additional resources Tunisia needs with hard currency. Therefore, Tunisia does not need to reschedule its debts. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Begins Working Visit to France

For coverage of Prime Minister Rachid Sfar's arrival in France, his meeting with Tunisian party ranks, his discussions with French Premier Chirac, and statements to the media, see the France section of the 22 June Western Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Socialist Party's Sfar Returns From Paris

LD232259 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Rachid Sfar, premier and secretary general of the Destourian Socialist Party, returned to Tunis this evening after a 48-hour working visit to Paris. He was accompanied by party director Abdelaziz Ben Dhia and Minister of Information Abderrazak Kefi. [passage omitted]

President Appoints Acting Foreign Minister

LD231324 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The Republic's presidency has issued the following announcement:

Regarding the absence of Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Hedi Mabrouk, who is abroad receiving medical care, the Supreme Combatant, His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, has decided to entrust Mr Amor Chedli, minister director of the President's Office, with the duties of acting minister of foreign affairs.

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Turkish Tanker Hit in Gulf; 7 Crewmen Injured

TA241039 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] An unidentified warplane in the Persian Gulf hit *Hira-3*, a Turkish tanker belonging to the Sahlan Maritime Company. The attack caused a fire aboard the tanker and injured seven crew members.

The *Hira-3* tanker was attacked at around 0100 last night, 6 hours after unloading at Iran's Bushire port and sailing to sea. A fire broke out aboard the tanker when one of the diesel tanks in the engine room was hit. Tugboats which came to the aid of the tanker and its crew extinguished the fire. Captain Mumtaz Diker is the pilot of the 30,600-deadweight ton tanker. The tanker is being towed to Dubai. Helicopters belonging to the Iranian fleet took the seven injured crewmen to Bushire port. They were hospitalized for treatment.

KUWAIT

Shaykh Sabah's Activities, Statements Cited

Urges Stand on Iran's Threats

LD231723 Kuwait KUNA in English 1546 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] United Nations, June 23 (KUNA) — Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh al-Sabah al-Ahmad Tuesday regretted Iran's deliberate propaganda campaign against Kuwait and urged the secretary-general and the international community to "adopt an unequivocal position rejecting and denouncing these threats."

Despite Kuwait's efforts to improve relations with Iran, that country "has regrettably shown no response... on the contrary, it has deliberately escalated its propaganda campaigns and unleashed direct and immediate threats against Kuwait through its senior officials," Shaykh al-Sabah said in a letter, addressed to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"It is natural that we, and the international community in general, should take [word indistinct] threats seriously, particularly since Iran is continuing to escalate the war and to harass Kuwaiti ships by every possible means," Shaykh al-Sabah said.

The Kuwaiti complaint coincided with an announcement that the Security Council would hold consultations later Tuesday on the war between Iran and Iraq.

The Kuwaiti official called on the U.N. to shoulder its responsibilities in accordance with the charter "and give concrete effect to the shared desire to end this dangerous and threatening conflict."

Shaykh al-Sabah told the secretary-general he also expects him "to take the initiative by rejecting and denouncing these threats against Kuwait, thus reflecting the fundamental opposition to any extension of the scope of the war."

The Kuwait foreign minister expressed his appreciation for what he described as an "increasing positive tendency among permanent and other state members of the Security Council towards full collective agreement on the draft resolution seeking to end the conflict.

He said such a resolution would be "appropriate" at this stage in view of the fact that the war has been carrying on for many years and Iran has rejected many resolutions.

"Our demand that you personally, and the international community, adopt an unequivocal position rejecting and denouncing the threats against Kuwait does not detract from the fact that our concern and desire are firmly focused on the need to end this war and so to rid ourselves of all its consequences," Shaykh al-Sabah said.

Shaykh al-Sabah underlined Kuwait's conviction that the problem of shipping in the Gulf, which is currently attracting "conspicuous and justified international attention", is in fact but one of the results of this war. This makes it "incumbent on all of us that we should concentrate our efforts on ending the war in itself," he said.

Shaykh al-Sabah paid tribute to the secretary-general's "constructive role" in promoting international efforts to end the war.

Comments on Al-Shariqah Affair

LD231502 Kuwait KUNA in English 1303 GMT 23 Jun 87

[By Salih Nazzal]

[Text] Kuwait, June 23 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir Tuesday said that the Kuwaiti action plan aims at explaining the dangerous situation in the Arabian Gulf.

Shaykh Sabah added, in response to reporters on this issue, envoys of H.H. the amir will convey messages from H.H. to kings and heads of Arab and Islamic states, briefing them on the latest developments in the Gulf region and the escalating dangers of the Iraqi-Iranian war which jeopardizes the freedom of navigation in the area.

KUNA learnt that the deputy premier and foreign minister will start a quick tour in the GCC states carrying messages from H.H. the amir to kings and amirs of these countries.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'ud Muhammad al-'Usaymi was the first envoy carrying H.H. the amir's messages to King Husayn of Jordan and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

On the other hand, Shaykh Sabah stated that Kuwait welcomes the agreement reached over the deadlock in the United Arab Emirate of Al-Shariqah between Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi and his brother 'Abd al-'Aziz.

On the reports of obstacles before the agreement, he said "according to what we have learnt, the problem is over following the reconciliation realised."

He added: "We have all the confidence in the wisdom of our brothers there (UAE), be that the head of state Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan or his brothers members of the Supreme Council and the rest of the officials who can tackle any problem and strengthen the march of this state to be along side its GCC sisters."

Departs on Tour of GCC Nations

LD240939 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0852 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Kuwait 24 Jun (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Kuwait at about 1130 today for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He is beginning a tour of the GCC member states. After the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia he will visit Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE, and the Sultanate of Oman.

In a statement to KUNA prior to his departure, Shaykh Sabah Al-Ahmad said: I have been honored by my lord his highness the amir to carry written messages from him to his brothers — their majesties and highnesses the leaders of the GCC member countries.

He added that the messages concern new aspects of the situation in the region. He said they also contain consultation about matters of interest to the security and stability of this region.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad is accompanied by a delegation, which includes the head of his office, Abdallah Sa'ud al-'Abd al-Razzaq, and Khalid al-Jar Allah, director of the GCC and the Arab Gulf Countries Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad was seen off by Faysal al-Salih al-Mutawwa', acting undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry, as well as heads of departments and the ambassadors of the GCC member countries in Kuwait.

PDRY

Further Reportage on YSP Congress Proceedings

Al-Bid Gives Press Conference

EA222008 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, held a news conference this evening at the Palestine Conference Hall to mark the conclusion of the general party conference. At the start of the press conference, the brother secretary general thanked the correspondents of all newspapers and representatives of Arab, international, and local news agencies who attended and covered the business and outcome of the general party conference.

Replying to questions and inquiries from the correspondents, the brother secretary general appealed to the misled ones to benefit from the general amnesty decree. He asked them to return to participate in nation building and live among their families and people. He stressed that the party and state will give every guarantee to ensure a stable life for them.

He pointed out that the 13 January abortive coup conspiracy led by the conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was aimed against the toiling masses and at the obstruction of the socialist presence. Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid stressed that after the conspiracy the YSP had recovered the socialist tendency under the party documents, literature, and program.

He added that the party leadership continues to make efforts for unity with the brothers in the homeland's northern part. He pointed out that the 13 January events were transient. He stressed that they should not affect the progress of the efforts being made by the governments of the two parts to achieve unity. Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid said that relations between the governments of the two parts are good. Our party policy will center on continuing the efforts to achieve Yemeni unity, the noble objective of our Yemeni people. He said the party will overcome any obstacles to this goal. Rather, Al-Bid said that party actions will favor the unity steps which are advancing to ensure the stability and progress of our Yemeni people.

The brother secretary general expressed the concern of our party and people at the manifestations of military tension in the Arab Gulf region. He also expressed concern at the exploitation of the Iraq-Iran war for an increased military presence of the aggressive NATO in the region. The secretary general declared our country's support for the Soviet stand which calls for the achievement of security and stability in the Middle East. He also voiced support for the Soviet proposals for the convening of an international peace conference in the Middle East, inspired by the peaceful spirit of Soviet political action with the support of all mankind.

He stressed the importance of developing relations between Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Lebanese nationalist movement. He pointed out our country's role in this regard in ensuring the strengthening and the developing of the Arab revolutionary movement and the realization of Arab solidarity.

Brothers Dr Salim 'Umar Bukayr, member and secretary of the Central Committee, and Dr Muhammad Ahmad Jirghum, candidate member of the Central Committee and minister of culture and information attended the press conference.

Al-Bid Receives USSR Official

EA222027 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, this morning received Comrade Vladimir Grigoriyevich Lomonosov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU] in the USSR [title as heard]. Lomonosov attended the general party conference. During the meeting, the

brother secretary general welcomed the CPSU Delegation to the general party conference. He noted that his attendance was an expression of the depth of the ties of comradely friendship linking the YSP and the CPSU and the peoples of the two friendly countries. He also praised the sincere internationalist assistance which the USSR had provided and continued to provide to our country and party.

Replying, Comrade Lomonosov conveyed to the secretary general the greetings and congratulations of the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev for the great success achieved by the general party conference. He gave his positive impressions and told how he was affected by the spirit which prevailed in the sessions of the conference. He referred to the full support given by the general party conference for the analytical critical document, the political report, and the different documents presented to the conference. He said this report is evidence of the extent of the maturity and awareness of the representatives. He also praised the successful preparations for the convening of the conference and the direct participation of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee in these preparations. All this was an expression of the skillful approach which ensured the close ties between the leadership and the base.

The meeting was attended by Dr Salih Muhsin al-Haj, candidate member of the Central Committee and director of the secretary general's office, and Comrade Rachkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet ambassador to Aden.

Central Committee Changes Made

EA221931 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] The proceedings of the YSP general conference, held 20-21 June under the great slogan "We Struggle To Defend the Yemeni Revolution, Implement the 5-Year Plan, and Achieve Yemeni Unity" ended very successfully this evening. During the seventh and final session, the delegates heard the closing statement issued on the conference proceedings. Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, read the statement.

The closing statement clarified the enormous importance of the general party conference. This was evidenced by the complicated circumstances under which the conference was held, the documents and issues which it reviewed, and the results. These aspects truly reflect the extent of our experience in turning words into deeds and theory into practice. They demonstrated that we proceed with principled steadfastness along the socialist path, responding to the interests of the Yemeni farmers, soldiers, fishermen and other toilers. Our experience guarantees the glorious victories of the eternal revolutions of 26 September and 14 October.

The statement said that the proceedings of the general party conference were a success. This success demonstrates the correctness and vitality of the steps that our leading party, the YSP, takes to secure the achievements of the revolution and consolidate its democratic, class, and ideological content. It also reflects the strengthened, fought-for solidarity of our revolution and party with Arab and international brothers and friends in the joint struggle for peace, democracy, and social progress.

The statement said that the convening of the general party conference coincides with our people's celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the glorious 20 June uprising and the 18th anniversary of the glorious corrective step of 22 June. This step constituted a decisive turning point in the progress of the revolution of 14 October in the interests of the classes and the struggling elements in Yemeni society. It also aided the advancement of the revolution along the important path toward realizing the program of economic transformation along the path of struggle to consolidate national unity. The goal of this advancement is to achieve Yemeni unity peacefully and democratically, to entrench the option of the socialist course, to uplift the political class of the revolution and the people, and to deepen its intellectual and organizational essence and its class structure.

The statement said that the YSP Central Committee convened the second session of its ninth extraordinary meeting this evening. This was laid down under Article 43 of the party's internal regulations. The committee also ratified all the results and issues adopted by the general party conference with regard to the critical analytical document pertaining to the revolutionary experiment in democratic Yemen of 1978-86 and the resolution on political planning.

The statement outlined the tasks of our party during the coming period in the context of the critical analytical document and the party organizational political report on deepening the democratic class content of the authority of the state. The report also deals with disseminating and deepening scientific socialism and national progressive culture in the ranks of the masses and in the economic sphere. The Yemeni national cause and foreign policy are other topics which it covers.

The statement said that at the end of its proceedings, the general party conference adopted a resolution dismissing the following full and candidate members of the Central Committee from membership of the Central Committee. They were involved in the bloody events of 13 January:

1. 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim; 2. Ahmad Salim 'Ubayd; 3. 'Ali Salih 'Ubayd Mugbil; 4. Salih Hasan Muhammad; 5. Ahmad Haydarah Sail; 6. Ahmad Awad al-Mahruq; 7. 'Ali 'Abd al-Razzaq ba Dhib; 8. Abdallah Salih al-Bar; 9. Riyad al-Akbari; 10. Haydarah 'Umar Salih; 11. Abduh 'Ali Abd al-Rahman; 12. Muhammad Miftah 'Abd Al-Rabb; 13. Hasan Ahmad al-Sallami; 14. 'Abdallah Nasir Rashid; 15. 'Abd al-Qadir ba Jammal; 16. Muhammad 'Abd al-Qawi; 17. Nasir Nasir 'Ali; 18. Muhammad Nasir Jabir; 19. Sa'id Rawih; 20. Muhammad 'Ali ba Musallam; 21. Sultan Al-Dawsh; 22. Fathiyyah Muhammad 'Abdallah; 23. Mahmud al-Najashi; 24. 'Abdallah 'Aziz; 25. Muhammad 'Abd al-Jalil al-Sarari; 26. Hasan Salih Ba Awm.

The general party congress elected the following comrades as candidate members of the Central Committee:

1. 'Abd al-Qawi Muthanna Hadi; 2. Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Nahari; 3. Aidah 'Ali Said; 4. Mulki 'Abdallah Hasan; 5. Ahmad 'Ubayd Bin Daghr; 6. 'Umar Muhammad 'Abd al-

Samad; 7. Salih Shayif Husayn; 8. Ashur Abud Fayyih; 9. Hanna Thabit Sufayn; 10. Salih Ahmad Muqbil; 11. Dr Husayn 'Aii Hassan; 12. Hassan Husayn 'Ali; 13. Salih 'Ali Zamqali; 14. Majid Murshid Sayf; 15. Shafil 'Umar 'Ali; 16. Dr 'Abdallah 'Uthman; 17. Harbi Mulayt; 18. Muhammad Awad al-Sadi; 19. Shai Muhsin Muhammad; 20 Muhammad Ahmad Jarhum; 21. Dr Salih Muhsin al-Haj; 22. Muhammad 'Ali al-Qayrahi; 23. Ahmad 'Abdallah al-Majidi; 24. Ahmad Nasir al-Diani; 25. Yasin Ahmad Salih.

The closing statement stressed the need to devise a practical plan caring for the affairs of workers, farmers, peasants, cooperative fishermen and other toilers. This plan is intended to raise their level of active participation in political life and guaranteeing the leading role of the working class in the life of society. It referred to the importance of the participation of Yemeni women and youth in the construction of the Yemeni edifice and its new man.

The statement stressed the need for greater attention to be given to helping workers to be creative in the various scientific, cultural and technical spheres with a view to affording our people the best chance of enhancing their spirituality.

The closing statement hailed the martyrs of the revolution and the party, the warriors of the liberation war, and those wounded in the battles of honor and heroism, to whom goes credit in respect of the successes achieved. It stresses the need to afford them their deserved standing for their struggle and steadfastness in creating revolutionary traditions and examples.These traditions and examples form the bases for inspiring the next Yemeni generation with the spirit of patriotism, love, and sacrifice for the revolution.

The closing statement stressed that our party will work to develop its struggle links with the Arab national liberation movement in general. It will also develop these links with the Palestinian revolution, the national progressive regimes in the Arab homeland, the countries of the socialist community, led by the USSR, and the world liberation movement.

The statement expressed profound gratitude to the delegations of the communist and workers parties and of the Arab and world liberation movements which participated in the proceedings of the general party conference.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Further Reports on Leadership Crisis in Sharjah

New Ruler Rejects Conditions

JN231622 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 23 Jun 87 pp 1, 21

[By Muhammad Zayn in Al-Shariqah]

[Text] The tripartite committee which was sent to Sharjah by the UAE Supreme Council yesterday met with Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi for approximately 10 hours. They discussed with him his written conditions. At the end of the discussions, the committee made the following three proposals to Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz:

1. To be appointed as heir apparent, deputy ruler, and deputy chairman of the Executive Council and to remove the legislative council. [Sentence as published]

2. To give the members of the ruling family all rights such as houses and allowances. These rights will be arranged by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

3. To incorporate the Amiri Guards in Sharjah into the union's forces.

Al-Siyasah contacted Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz who said: I rejected all these conditions and I continue to abide by my conditions. I told the committee I am not a power seeker. All I want is to restore rights. If the people are not given their rights I will continue to resist until these demands are realized. The Supreme Council must pledge to give Sharjah its rights. I told them these rights will not harm the union, Sultan, or Sharjah. These are legitimate rights. I cannot accept a situation in Sharjah where the citizens have no medical treatment and university graduates no jobs. We are currently bolstering our defenses. We will not relinquish our rights and we have high morale. We are waiting for the Supreme Council to agree to our conditions.

Three leaflets were published last night. They were signed by the "Sons of Sharjah". The group's leaflets criticized the previous state of affairs and expressed support for Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz. The leaflets announced that the group favors the current situation.

The UAE Supreme Council will meet today to discuss the results of the talks the tripartite committee has had with Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi is still at his place of residence in Dubayy.

Sharjah Rivals Reconciled

JN232033 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1950 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Dear brother listeners, we now bring the following to your attention. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. His Excellency Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Humud al-Qasimi, minister of state for Supreme Council affairs, has made the following statement:

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the UAE president, chaired a meeting of the UAE Supreme Council at Al-Maqam Palace tonight. Following the meeting, we are pleased to bring the UAE people and the brothers residing in it glad tidings on behalf of the head of state, who is the chairman of the Supreme Council, and on behalf of his brothers their highnesses the members of the Supreme Council, the rulers of the Amirates. God bless the UAE's wise leadership. It is steered by His Highness Shayih Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the head of state, may God preserve him.

We also congratulate his highness the president and his brothers on the success God has bestowed on them. They have succeeded in extinguishing the fire of sedition and reuniting the two brothers along the path of love and full sincerity.

With the help of Almighty God, the two brothers His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council and Sharjah ruler, and His Highness Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, heir apparent and deputy ruler of Sharjah, met during the Supreme Council's meeting tonight, Tuesday 23 June 1987, at Al-Maqam Palace in the city of Al-'Ayn. They met face to face and had a warm brotherly embrace in the presence of the UAE president and his brothers their highnesses the members of the Supreme Council. All their hopes to implement their desired plans have been fulfilled. We also congratulate all those who have contributed to these good and sincere efforts. We ask God to grant everlasting success to our wise leadership which is on a sound course.

The UAE Supreme Council has ratified the decision made by his highness, Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, Supreme Council member and Sharjah ruler, to appoint His Highness Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi as heir apparent and Sharjah deputy ruler. He has also been appointed deputy in chairing the Executive Council and will attend Supreme Council meetings in his capacity as heir apparent.

Consultations Continuing

JN231735 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1720 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Al-'Ayn, 23 Jun (WAM) — A responsible source has stated that UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and his brothers, their highness the members of the UAE Supreme Council and the rulers of the Emirates, are continuing their efforts and consultations. They are meeting to follow up the decisions the Supreme Council made to tackle the various aspects of national action and to enhance the federal march.

His Highness Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, Supreme Council member and Sharjah ruler, and His Highness Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, Sharjah heir apparent, are participating in these consultations. Their intent is to pave the way for the meeting the Supreme Council will hold in Al-Maqam Palace in Al-'Ayn this evening.

Paper Notes Solution Welcomed

JN231433 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 22 Jun 87 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The UAE Supreme Council has issued its statement on resolving the Sharjah crisis which lasted a few days. The public has swiftly responded by welcoming the statement and supporting the steps taken by the leader and his brothers the rulers. The people are confident that such a crisis or any other crisis cannot obstruct a march which we are determined to continue. Our survival depends on the continuation of this progress. Events have always affirmed that the union is our life and that the UAE is solid and strong and will remain so.

We should remember here that in his address to the UAE National Assembly on 29 April 1975, the leader said: Since we are all in the same boat, we all should work to keep it afloat until we reach the shore safely. The leader added: We must not allow negligence to obstruct the march because our survival depends on the safety of the boat.

Since 1975 it has been proven to us and to others that our boat will not sink because its captain is skillful in his wisdom, determination, vision, honesty. He loves his people and homeland. Under his leadership, his homeland achieved splendid accomplishments. It occupied a prominent position on Arab and international levels.

Therefore, the fraternal Arabs and honest friendly countries warmly welcomed the solution to the crisis. Their welcome is an expression of confidence in the leadership. It demonstrates their appreciation of the UAE's policies. The UAE has always participated in flying the flag of honor on Arab territory. It has given advice when asked to do so. On the international level, our experience will always remain a glorious chapter in the nonaligned world. This is our leadership and this is our state of which we are proud.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Somali President Siad Barre Makes Official Visit

Arrives 21 Jun

JN211255 Sanna Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Excerpt] His Excellency Brother Mohamed Siad Barre, president of the fraternal Somali Democratic Republic, arrived in Sanaa this afternoon on an official visit to our country. He is leading a ranking delegation at the invitation of brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

His Excellency Brother Mohamed Siad Barre was accorded a large official reception at Sanaa International Airport. Brother President leader Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, secretary general of the General People's Congress, led those who received him. He was also received by senior state and government officials. [passage omitted]

Somali Minister on Visit

JN211814 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Text] Somali Foreign Minister Brother Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre made a statement to SABA'. He said that His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre's visit is in response to the invitation of his brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president

of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. The visit also reflects the strong relations between the two fraternal countries. He pointed out that the talks His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre will hold with his brother leader President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih will deal with relations between the two fraternal countries. Of particular importance will be discussions on relations in the economic, cultural, social, and information fields.

He asserted that our country's political stands on the Arab and international levels are identical to the stands of the Somali Democratic Republic. Concluding his statement, he stated that His Excellency Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre and his delegation are profoundly pleased to be visiting our country. He said the Somali delegation feels it is in its second home. He pointed out that this visit is considered historic for the people of the two fraternal countries.

Salih, Siad Barre Hold Talks

JN230813 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Brother President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received at his office yesterday brother President Mohamed Siad Barre of the Somali Democratic Republic, and his accompanying delegation.

The two brother leaders held a meeting during which they resumed discussion of the topics reviewed during the first session of talks. Means of strengthening relations and developing cooperation between the two fraternal countries in various fields was a topic of the talks. Issues of mutual interest on the regional, Arab, and international levels were also discussed.

An official session of talks between the YAR and the Somali Democratic Republic was held yesterday under the chairmanship of the brothers President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and President Mohamed Siad Barre of the Somali Democratic Republic. The brother president, commander in chief, and secretary general spoke at the beginning of the session. In his speech, he welcomed the fraternal Somali guest and said: The visit crowns the close brotherly relations between two fraternal countries. Our nations are linked by strong and longstanding ties based on a common ideology and language.

The brother president said the visit of the fraternal Somali guest will strengthen the Arab nation's efforts to confront the imperialist-Zionist onslaught. This onslaught is embodied by the continued Zionist occupation of Arab territory, and the plots and repeated Zionist aggression against the Lebanese people. It is also a means of confronting the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. This war is claiming many lives from the two fraternal neighboring Muslim peoples. The brother president said: We look forward to the day in which the brothers in Iran respond to the call of peace and stop the destructive war.

In his address the brother president and leader reviewed the our country's achievements. He pointed to the political, social, and economic development that has occurred in our Yemeni society under the march of the immortal 26 September revolution. He said: We in the YAR are concentrating all our efforts on developing our country and on pushing the country toward progress in the economy, agriculture, and construction. We are intent on achieving the greatest degree of self-sufficiency in agricultural and industrial projects. We want to make advances in political action through the activities of the General People's Congress and under the guidance of the National Charter, the people's comprehensive political theory. The brother president referred to our people's successful political achievements inspired by the thoughts of the National Charter. He said that the scope of political action has widened to include various districts and subdistricts and all the people participate in the various fields of political action.

The brother president cited to our country's relations with fraternal and friendly countries. He emphasized that our country adheres to firm and clear principles in its foreign policy. These principles are based on equal relations with all fraternal and friendly states and the eagerness to establish relations of cooperation with all states [words indistinct] mutual respect and noninterference in the affairs of others and commitment to the principles of nonalignment [passage indistinct].

President Mohamed Siad Barre then delivered a speech in which he said: This is my third visit to this fraternal country. [passage indistinct]

Joint Communique Issued

JN231854 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 Jun 87

["Text" of joint communique on Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre's visit to the YAR from 21-23 June issued in Sanaa and Mogadishu on 23 June 1987]

[Text] At the invitation of Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress of the YAR, His Excellency Brother President Mohamed Siad Barre of the Somali Democratic Republic paid an official visit to the YAR 21-23 June 1987. His excellency was accorded an official and popular reception embodying the fraternal bonds and close relations which exist between the two fraternal peoples of Yemen and Somalia.

Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, was at the head of those present at Sanaa International Airport to welcome his excellency upon arrival. During the visit His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre laid a wreath on the Martyrs Monument and visited Sanaa University, the Staff and Command College, and several landmarks and establishments in Sanaa.

His excellency was accorded a warm welcome by officials and citizens. His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre admired the level of progress the YAR has achieved in economic and social development. He also praised the tangible results attained

in this sphere for the development of the YAR — land and people — and of the enhancement of national unity under the banner of the National Charter and within the framework of the General People's Congress. This national unity was crowned by the recent free elections in the YAR. These elections increased the number of members in the General People's Congress and the local councils. They also sought to cultivate more active popular participation in economic and social development and the political process.

His excellency the guest greatly appreciated the speech Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih recently delivered at the Constituent People's Assembly. In this speech, he called for preparations for free and direct elections to the Consultative Council. This step is considered a vanguard and advanced policy on the road to enhancing democracy and popular participation.

Official talks were held during the visit between Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and His Excellency President Mohammed Siad Barre of the Somali Democratic Republic. Several Yemeni and Somali officials participated in the talks. The discussions were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and fraternal understanding. They dealt with the solid relations existing between the two fraternal countries.

In this regard, the two sides expressed their deep satisfaction with the level of these relations, stressing the importance of expanding and developing them in political, economic, cultural, educational, informational, judicial, communications, and transportation areas by holding more contacts between the Yemeni and Somali Governments to serve the two fraternal countries' joint interests. They also decided to set up a joint committee under the two countries' foreign ministers to coordinate cooperation between the two fraternal countries in the aforementioned areas. The two leaders welcomed efforts to hold meetings and promote dialogue between political and popular institutions in both countries.

The two sides reviewed the regrettable situation that has been going on in the Horn of Africa for a long time — a situation which has caused heavy losses in lives and property for the region's peoples. The Yemeni side welcomed the recent developments represented in the political contacts between Somalia and Ethiopia to find a peaceful solution to the current problems between the two countries. The two sides also noted the need to continue these contacts to create an atmosphere of peace and to arrive at a just and lasting solution in accordance with international laws. The two sides also reviewed the situation in the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, affirming the great importance of security and stability in these regions and stressing their adherence to the need to keep these regions free of nuclear weapons and any foreign military presence.

Reviewing the Arab situation and causes, foremost of which are the Palestinian cause, the current challenges facing the Arab nation at this present stage, and the current developments in the region, the two sides expressed their full support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to regain their full rights, including their right to an independent state on their soil. The two sides also stressed that without resolving the Palestinian question, the Middle East will remain a source of tension and this problem will constitute a serious and direct threat against the region's countries and world security and peace. The two Arab leaders reiterated the need for Israel to withdraw its forces from all the occupied Arab territories, including the holy city of Jerusalem. They appealed to all countries, especially the permanent UN Security Council members, to exert real and serious efforts to solve the Palestinian problem, which is the core of the Middle East issue. In this regard, the two leaders voiced their support for an international peace conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations to be attended by all interested parties, foremost of which is the PLO, the Palestinian people's legitimate sole representative.

The two sides also reviewed the situation in Lebanon and expressed their hope that the Lebanese people will maintain Lebanon's independence, unity, and full regional sovereignty, stressing their full condemnation of the continuation of the Zionist aggression against Lebanon's sovereignty. They reiterated their call on the international community to take a firm position against this aggression and force Israel to withdraw from all Lebanese territories.

Reviewing the situation in the Arab Gulf, the two sides expressed their deep regret over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, which started 7 years ago, over the loss of resources and lives in both neighboring Muslim countries, and over the resulting tension in the Gulf region and threat to international navigation. The two leaders reiterated their countries' adherence to the resolutions issued by the fifth Islamic summit conference held in Kuwait in January 1987 and by the 15th conference of Islamic countries' foreign ministers held in Sanaa in December 1984. These resolutions call for complying with them, for working to end this destructive war as soon as possible, and for solving disputed issues through negotiations to guarantee both sides' legitimate rights.

The two sides praised Iraq's response to all efforts to end this war and appealed to the Islamic Republic of Iran to sincerely respond to these efforts to spare the blood and lives of Muslims in both countries.

Upon reviewing the regional and international situation, the two sides reiterated their commitment to the principles and goals of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Arab League Charter, and the ICO. They expressed their concern over the continuation of the arms race among the big powers and the accompanying dangers of space militarization and proliferation of nuclear weapons. They emphasized that complete disarmament and the establishment of world peace are the only way to ensure the security and safety of mankind worldwide.

The two sides also emphasized the need to set up a new world economic order guaranteeing the rights and interests of all states, achieving justice in relations between developing and industrialized states, particularly the countries exporting raw materials in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. This new world economic order should solve the problem of debts burdening the developing

countries, according to the resolutions of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the OAU.

In the course of their review of the African situation, the two sides expressed their grave concern over the deteriorating situation in South Africa and the increasing repression and terrorism practiced by the white minority regime against the country's original inhabitants. The two sides reiterated their call for imposing further sanctions against the regime of apartheid in South Africa, considering these sanctions the only way to solve this problem. They also expressed their support for the Namibian people's struggle for independence under SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization], their legitimate representative. They called for expediting the implementation of UN resolutions which call for granting the people of Namibia full independence.

The two sides touched on Arab-African cooperation and stressed the need to intensify Arab-African efforts to bolster this cooperation in a manner fulfilling Arab-African aspirations.

At the conclusion of talks the two leaders expressed their great satisfaction with the results of the visit and the talks, results that will further strengthen the bonds of cooperation, understanding, and coordination between the two sisterly countries. They emphasized the need to continue such meetings as they are extremely effective in serving their interests, as well as the interests of the Arab and Islamic nation.

His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre again expressed his thanks to his brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih for his great concern over his health following his car accident last year. His Excellency President Mohamed Siad Barre extended an invitation to his brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to visit the Somali Democratic Republic. He thankfully accepted the invitation and the date of the visit will be fixed later.

Siad Barre Concludes Visit

JN231923 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Official Yemeni-Somali talks concluded in Sanaa at 1430 this afternoon. The talks were led by Brothers Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and Mohamed Siad Barre, president of the Somali Democratic Republic. Talks dealt with Arab and international developments and ways to develop and reinforce bilateral cooperation in various fields, in addition to a discussion of a number of issues of interest to the sisterly countries.

The closing session of the talks was attended on the Yemeni side by Brothers 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member; Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member; Dr Husayn al-'Amri, minister of agriculture and fisheries, Standing Committee member, and head of the escort of the distinguished guest; 'Ali Muhammad al-Anisi, chief of the presidential office and Standing Committee member; 'Abd al-Hafiz Ahran, YAR ambassador in Mogadishu; and Ahmad Muhammad al-Radi, secretary general of the presidency.

On the Somali side the talks were attended by Dr 'Abdurahman Jama Barre, foreign minister; Dr 'Abd Sallat Hasan, minister of state for political affairs at the presidency; Dr Mohamed Hasan Barre, deputy minister of agriculture; Dr Mohamed 'Abduh Yusuf Qabus, deputy health minister; 'Abdu Faris, permanent secretary at the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education; 'Abdurahman Faris Isma'il, director general of the Arab Affairs Department of the Foreign Ministry; Brother 'Ali Hussein 'Ali, director general of the Economic Cooperation Department of the Foreign Ministry; Dr 'Abdallah al-Shaykh 'Ali, director general of the Planning Department of the Ministry of Agriculture; Hussein Mohamed Balala, Somalia's ambassador in Sanaa; and 'Abd al-Salam Mu'allim Adam, Somalia's ambassador in the southern part of the homeland.

This morning an agreement on cooperation in economic, social, cultural and informational fields was signed between the YAR and the Somali Democratic Republic. Signing for the YAR was Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and Standing Committee member; and for Somalia, Brother Dr 'Abdurahman Jama Barre, foreign minister.

His Excellency Brother Mohamed Siad Barre, president of the Somali Democratic Repubic, and his delegation left Sanaa at 1800 this afternoon after an official 3-day visit during which he held talks with his Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, on relations between the sisterly countries and ways to develop them, as well as other issues of common interest. A grand farewell was held for his excellency with Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih leading the farewell party. [passage omitted on farewell details]

His Excellency Brother Mohamad Siad Barre, president of the Somali Democratic Republic, gave a predeparture statement to SABA' in which he said: As we depart the YAR, we take pleasure in expressing our deep thanks to Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, as well as to the Yemeni Government and people for the great hospitality accorded us. We have been impressed with the great advancement we witnessed in all aspects of life in the YAR.

He added he was confident that the great Yemeni people, who have braced themselves for hard work, will realize all their hopes for progress, affluence, and prosperity. The Somali president said the brotherly contacts between himself and Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih would cement cooperation between the sisterly countries and their talks have produced complete understanding culminating in a joint communique and a bilaterl cooperation agreement signed by the foreign ministers of both countries.

Brother President Barre concluded his statement by saying this visit marks the first step in bolstering cooperation through the joint coordination commission, cochaired by the foreign ministers. He hoped the countries would reach spectacular results serving as a model to be emulated by others.

Gulf Conflict Battlefront Reports Continue

Communique No 2,719 Issued

JN231650 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,719 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 June 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The determination of righteous men is demonstrated daily in the struggle of Iraq's zealous sons, their glorious defense of their dear homeland, and their capacity, all of which serve as a lofty edifice in the face of the criminal Khomeyniite aggressors. Our enemy will swallow the bitterness of defeat only through the painful blows dealt by our victorious soldiers.

The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. In continuing our decision to deprive the Iranian regime of supplies and affirming the role carried out by our brave Navy in this regard, our brave naval units spotted a large maritime target attempting to enter Bandar-e Khomeyni Port in the Arab Gulf's northeastern section at 1147 [0747 GMT] today. Our Navy dealt this target devastating blows with their missiles, destroyed it, and returned safely to base. God bless the brave men of our Navy, the honest protectors of our territorial waters and the Arab Gulf's waters. Praise be to God for His victory.

2. Iraq's brave hawks continued their successful raids on enemy units in the war zone, sending the scoundrels to death and destroying their weapons, positions, and equipment with 63 combat missions. The hawks and their aircraft then returned safely to base in God's care and protection.

3. The brave helicopter knights carried out a series of lightning raids on enemy positions today, inflicting further losses on the charlatanist rule in Iran with 80 combat sorties. The knights then returned with their planes safely to base, praise be to God.

4. With determination and their belief in God, our victorious troops in the I Army Corps northern sector continued their heroic operations against the Zionist aggressors. Some of our brave artillery units in the same sector poured devastating fire on the scoundrels' assembly points, inflicting heavy losses on them. The following confirmed losses have also been reported: 25 vehicles of various types, some of which contained personnel, burned and destroyed; 3 shovels [preceding word in English] and 2 bulldozers destroyed and another damaged; 6 infantry positions and 1 observation post destroyed; 3 personnel killed; 1 single-barrel machinegun destroyed and its crew killed; and several ammunition dumps detonated.

5. A brave force from one of our units on the VII Army Corps front carried out a successful raid on enemy positions opposite it. Using efficient fire support, our force destroyed a number of enemy positions and killed and wounded their occupants, then returned safely to base.

6. Our units in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan seized the following weapons: 133 GC rifles, 22 medium-caliber machineguns, 36 RPG-7 launchers, 3 SPG-9 weapons, 5 DSHK machineguns, and 2 60-mm mortars.

7. In the II Army Corps central sector, one DSHK machinegun, one observation post, one infantry position, and two ammunition dumps were destroyed.

8. The forces of the despotic Khomeyniite clique shelled residential areas in the city of Al-Qurnah with long-range artillery. As a result, civilian houses and property were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 June 1987

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

JN231755 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1748 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian allegations that an Iraqi aircraft was shot down today. In a statement to INA, the military spokesman affirmed that all Iraqi aircraft carrying out their missions over the battlefront today returned safely to base.

Iranian Combat Claims Denied

JN240952 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0939 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jun (INA) — Iraq has denied Iran's claims that armed confrontation has taken place in the Governorate of Irbil in northern Iraq. In a statement to INA, a military source said that there is complete security in these areas and that citizens are continuing their routine and work as usual.

The source asserted that Iran's claims of alleged fighting in this region is an attempt to conceal the heavy losses its forces have suffered in their attacks on border heights located in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province.

'Large Maritime Target' Struck

JN241620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Jun (INA) — It has been announced here that Iraqi naval forces attacked a large maritime target off the Iranian coast near Iran's Khark Island oil terminal after midnight on 24 June.

In a statement to INA a short while ago, an Iraqi military spokesman said that the strike against the maritime target was accurate and effective. The spokesman affirmed that Iraqi forces will continue to confront all attempts at aggression and all methods and bases leading to its continuation against our country.

Shamir: No Change in Soviet Policy Toward Jews

TA231007 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jun 87 p 9

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday said that now is the right time to renew the struggle on behalf of Soviet Jewry in order to force the Soviets to change their policy and allow every Jew who wants to leave the Soviet Union to do so.

In a meeting with a West European parliamentary delegation, Shamir noted that this struggle should also be waged in Europe and the United States. "We and the free world must tell the Soviets that if they want cooperation with the West, they must offer substantive proof by freeing the Jews. This is a humanitarian issue. The problem of Soviet Jewry is different from the problems of other peoples there."

According to Shamir, the rumors about a change in the Soviet attitude toward the Jews are unfounded. The fact is that this month the number of people who received exit permits has declined. He added that there is Arab pressure on the Soviet Union not to change its policy on Jewish emigration.

Shamir said that Soviet diplomats stationed in Arab states have even stated that the Soviet Union will not allow significant Jewish immigration to Israel.

Beilin Says No Soviet Assurances on Reciprocity

TA230908 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Jun 87 p 2

[Excerpt] The principle of reciprocity, by which an Israeli consular delegation will be sent to Moscow after a similar visit from a Soviet delegation, has not been assured, Foreign Ministry Political Director-General Yosi Beilin said yesterday.

"The principle wasn't agreed upon, it was unilaterally proposed by us in contacts with the Soviets earlier this year when they asked to come to Israel. We told them that the visas would be granted if within a short time they permitted an Israeli delegation to enter the Soviet Union," Beilin told diplomatic correspondents.

"I am aware that they said they would not accede to our demand," Beilin said. Personally, he believed that the Israeli delegation would be allowed to visit Moscow, eventually.

"I don't think that there is any importance to an Israeli delegation in itself," Beilin said. "We will not retreat from the principle of renewing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and we will not accept any substitute for it. We have no interest in making the consular delegation a substitute for a dialogue with the Soviets," he said.

The Soviet delegation, due to arrive early next month, will be able to meet with senior government officials only if it initiates such meetings, he said. The Foreign Ministry has decided that Israel will not initiate any talks on matters besides consular affairs, which are the declared purpose of the visit, he added. [passage omitted]

Rabin Comments on Soviet Efforts at Regional Role

TA231628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that the Soviet Union is making great efforts to reenter the Middle East arena and play a central role in the Israeli-Arab conflict. Addressing members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, the defense minister affirmed that there is no argument over the serious security import of these efforts. However, there are different opinions over their political significance.

The defense minister noted that as part of its efforts the Soviet Union has forgone Syria's $4 billion debt and has agreed to reschedule Egypt's $13 billion debt.

Kenyan President Said Not To Favor Resuming Ties

TA231619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi does not lean toward renewing full diplomatic relations with Israel at this time. He feels that the present situation, in which Israel has someone in charge of its interests in Kenya and an active El Al station in Nairobi, is preferable.

Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that this position transpires from a conversation which Prime Minister Shamir held with the Kenyan president last week on his way to West Africa. The Prime Minister's Office and the Kenyan Government are not confirming that there was a meeting between Shamir and Arap Moi.

Foreign Ministry Denies Meeting

TA241118 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman has denied that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi last week. This is reported by our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami.

Weizman Wants Explanation for Waldheim Invitation

TA231730 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] For the moment Israel will content itself with a demand that the Vatican explain the meaning of its invitation to Kurt Waldheim and will wait to see the outcome of the meeting. This was announced at the Knesset plenum by Minister 'Ezer Weizman in replyto six motions to the Knesset agenda submitted by Knesset members [MK's] who severely criticized the pope. Our Knesset correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that Mr Weizman said that the Austrians are embarrassed that Waldheim is their president and that all their attempts to dump their dirty linen on the Jewish people are nothing but a game which is highly hazardous for the Austrian people. This creates an impossible background to a Waldheim audience with the pope.

The Knesset plenum endorsed Minister Weizman's statements, as well as his announcement that he acknowledges the remarks made by the six MK's. Dan Tikhon, who chaired the session, asked that the Vatican be provided with the minutes of the Knesset session immediately.

Ya'aqobi Comments on U.S. Talks on Peace Process

TA230800 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Telephone interview with Economics, Planning and Communications Minister Gad Ya'aqobi by Arye Golan — live]

[Text] [Golan] You are now in the United States, while Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, is in Europe to once again try to promote the notion of an international conference. Based on your talks with officials in Washington, can you say whether or not the Americans have actually dropped the notion of an international conference, seeing that there is no Israeli majority in favor of it?

[Ya'aqobi] The political issue was mainly raised in the talks with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead and Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy. I think that they definitely hope the political process will continue, by means of an international conference as well, although they were very disappointed by the decision — or rather the lack of a decison — of the Israeli Government. However, they are also worried about the extent of King Husayn's and Jordan's ability to sustain their willingness to enter negotiations until some far-off time when the issue may be ripe from Israel's point of view.

[Golan] Did the Americans raise new or different ideas for promoting the political process?

[Ya'aqobi] They were prepared to answer my question as to whether progress could be made, not necessarily toward a full peace agreement but rather toward an interim agreement. Murphy replied that an interim agreement was a real possibility to be discussed with Jordan if it is linked to the final agreement. This would resemble the autonomy idea, but its timetable would be shorter; in other words, it would not take 5 years but rather 2 or 3 years. However, this point has not yet been concluded in their talks with Jordan.

[Golan] Minister Ya'aqobi, did you hear any U.S. reaction to Husayn's announcement, or rather ultimatum, that he would only wait for us until August on the issue of an international conference?

[Ya'aqobi] That is what I meant when I said that they are worried that the timetable might be extended. They are not at all certain that Jordan will be able to sustain its willingness until Israel makes a decision, and they do not know when Israel will make suchdecisions. However, they believe that by keeping the political process alive through talks and continued clarifications, including understandings with the Soviet Union, the process may last longer and either lead to a peace agreement or to what they consider more reasonable: an interim agreement which will lead to a full political agreement in the distant furture.

Paris Paper Interviews Israeli Defense Minister

PM231432 Paris LIBERATION in French
20-21 Jun 87 pp 14-15

[Interview with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Marc Kravetz in Paris — date not given]

[Text] *Liberation*: The government of national unity is currently in a blind alley, primarily as a result of disagreements between its two components most notably on the question of a possible international Near East peace conference. What is your view on this subject?

Yitzhaq Rabin: If I attempt to analyze the situation in the Near East, I must answer two questions: First, to what extent is there a threat of war and second, what are our chances of improving the peace process. With regard to the first question, we can see that Israel's position has improved. Eight years of peace with Egypt have discouraged the formation of an Arab coalition against us and have reduced the risk of an Israeli-Arab war. The most terrible war in the Near East today is not between Israel and the Arab countries but between Iraq and Iran — two Muslim countries.

As a result of this war, Iraq is no longer a potential threat to Israel. Syria is not a dangerous adversary in the military sphere, and the religious fundamentalists are careful not to take too many risks with us. Therefore, there is less risk of war and also a greater chance of achieving progress in the peace process. For instance, Jordan has more room to maneuver as a result of the fact that Iraq is totally dependent on it for its communications with the outside world. As long as the Gulf war lasts, Jordan will have more opportunity to negotiate peace than it will when this conflict ends. Even Syria has to adopt a friendly attitude toward Jordan in view ofthe fact that as the only Arab country supporting Iran it is isolated in the Arab world.

That is why we in the Labor Party believe that we must exploit the present situation to try to prompt bilateral talks.

The fact remains that the Jordanians do not feel that the time is right for direct talks on territorial questions, and an international conference is necessary. It must be understood that neither the superpowers nor the European countries can impose a solution or oppose an agreement between two of the countries concerned. Should the negotiations reach a deadlock, the international peace conference must not act as a court deciding who is right and who is wrong. We have good reason to believe that the Jordanians agree with this.

Liberation: How do you view the Palestinians' participation?

Yitzhaq Rabin: With a view to reaching a peace settlement with Jordan, we must obviously solve the Palestinian problem. We think that the Palestinians living on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip must be involved in the negotiations and represented in a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. But we are all opposed to PLO participation. The PLO has proved to be the main obstacle to peace because of its philosophy, its policy, and the means it uses to achieve its ends; in other words, terrorism.

Liberation: Your view does not seem to be shared by the Jordanians.

Yitzhaq Rabin: We say "no to the PLO." The Jordanians say "yes to the Palestinians who accept UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 as the sole basis." The PLO wants all UN resolutions, including the General Assembly resolutions, to be taken into account. This is unacceptable to us and to Jordan. The PLO also refuses to renounce violence and terrorism as Jordan is asking it to do. Finally, the PLO does not want a single Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and is demanding separate representation. There are in fact many similarities between the Jordanian and Israeli positions.

Liberation: The vast majority of Palestinians living in the occupied territories, not to mention those living outside those territories, identify with the PLO. If serious negotiations begin, do you not think that you will have to meet with the PLO sooner or later?

Yitzhaq Rabin: No. I do not think a solution can be reached with the PLO. I have never believed and I still do not believe that the Palestinian problem is the root of the Israeli-Arab conflict. As an Israeli, I have a clear conscience about the Palestinians.

In 1947, the end of British rule resulted in India's partition into two states on community bases (India and Pakistan, the eastern part of which later became Bangladesh — *Liberation* editor's note). The same principles were applied to Palestine, which was then under British mandate. The Jewish community accepted the partition plan. The Arabs and the Arab world rejected it. They waged war on us and lost.

From 1949 to 1967, the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip were governed by Arabs. If the solution to the Israeli-Arab conflict was the creation of a Palestinian state, why was no attempt made to create one in those 18 years? It was up to them and to the Arab world. Why did they not do then what they are demanding now? Quite simply because they wanted and still want to destroy Israel.

Liberation: What solution are you proposing?

Yitzhaq Rabin: As I told you, I do not think the Palestinian problem is the root of the conflict, although I am aware that without a solution to the Palestinian question it will be impossible to achieve complete and lasting peace in the region. But what does solving the Palestinian problem mean? It means a sovereign Palestinian state in which most of the Palestinians can live and which can provide a solution to the refugee question.

The PLO has a solution: First a Palestinian state on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and then the return of all refugees to within the Israeli borders as they were before the 6-Day War. In other words, an end to the Israeli state. This is not even worth considering. As Abba Eban has said: "Israel has never felt that it had an international duty to commit suicide."

The Labor Party thinks that the only solution is the creation of a Jordanian-Palestinian state in the context of peace with Jordan; a Jordanian-Palestinian state. However, there must be an international pledge to help solve the refugee question without which the Palestinian problem cannot be regarded as settled. In this context, we are prepared to make territorial concessions, on the understanding that we will not return to the 1967 borders and that we will not accept another partition of Jerusalem, which must remain united as Israel's capital.

Liberation: Hanna Siniyurah, a journalist and a leading Palestinian in Jerusalem, recently announced that he wanted to take part in Jerusalem's municipal elections. What do you think of that?

Yitzhaq Rabin: I do not think that he will stand by his proposal for long. I am prepared to bet on it. He had the courage to do it; however, after the PLO's condemnation, he will have to give up the idea or risk his life. This is additional proof that no Palestinian can defend a viewpoint which is not shared by the PLO.

Liberation: Several Palestinians are saying: If the Israelis refuse to consider a Palestinian state next to them, then let them annex us and give us the same rights as their citizens. Do you believe that a binational Israeli state is possible in the future?

Yitzhaq Rabin: The Labor Party opposes those who want to extend Israeli sovereignty to the whole of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip precisely because we reject a binational state. This is why we want to make peace with Jordan and are prepared to make territorial concessions for such a peace settlement.

Israel cannot be a racist state, and I cannot conceive of extending our sovereignty over all the territories without giving the people who live in them all the civil rights enjoyed by Israeli citizens, as we have done for all the Arabs living within Israel. A binational state has nothing to do with the Zionist movement's original ideal.

Liberation: Do you think that you can negotiate with Syria too? Are you prepared to make territorial concessions on the Golan Heights, which have so far been regarded as a decisive element of Israeli security?

Yitzhaq Rabin: Israel is still prepared to negotiate without any preconditions. Is this true of Syria? Obviously not. The Syrian policy toward us is one of the most hostile around. Syria never talks of peace; at most it talks of an armistice. And to achieve even that, Damascus demands that Israel withdraw from all the territories first. The territorial dispute between us is merely a result of the Syrian attitude toward Israel. I see no prospect of peace with the current Syrian regime. However, to ensure that there is no misunderstanding on this point, we do believe that the Golan Heights are essential to our security.

Liberation: People often refer to the existence of at least a tacit agreement between Syria and Israel on the Syrian role in Lebanon. What can you say on this subject?

Yitzhaq Rabin: I can say that there is no agreement, tacit or otherwise, and that Syria denies it even more vehemently than I do. However, Syria is playing a major role in Lebanon, although it faces strong Iranian competition in that country. What we are now witnessing in Lebanon, leaving Israel aside, is an attempt by

Iran to use Hizbullah to gain hegemony within the Lebanese Shi'ite community and to create an Islamic republic in that country.

Israel has a very minor part in this whole affair. We have no illusions or intentions of playing a policing role in Lebanon and endangering our soldiers' lives. That is over as far as we are concerned. We have abandoned the kind of attitude and policy that prevailed in the past. We are solely concerned with Israel's security problems and not with the political developments that will shape Lebanon's future.

Liberation: Can you choose between Iraq and Iran?

Yitzhaq Rabin: Both are our enemies. That is why, like many other countries in the region, we do not want either to win. Neither an Iranian victory nor an Iraqi victory would be good for us or for most countries on the Arabian peninsula.

Liberation: You nonetheless sold arms to Iran.

Yitzhaq Rabin: We were involved with the United States in supplying arms to Iran, either U.S. arms from our own stocks or arms from the United States passing through Israel, in the hope that this would keep open channels of communication with some Iranian circles with a view to the post-Khomeyni period. The aim was also to facilitate the release of American hostages. I thought then, and I still think, that we should respond favorably to this American proposal. I would like to add that for 28 out of our 39 years of existence as an independent state we had friendly relations with Iran.

People on all sides constantly tell us that to end war it is necessary to talk with the enemy. I am prepared to talk with President al-Asad or with King Husayn. Why not with the Iranians?

Liberation: And with [PLO leader] Yasir 'Arafat?

Yitzhaq Rabin: With 'Arafat? No.

Liberation: Do you accept the idea of exchanging weapons for hostages?

Yitzhaq Rabin: I was prime minister when the Israeli Government decided to carry out the action at Entebbe in 1977. I was defense minister when we agreed to exchange three Israeli soldiers held hostage by Ahmad Jibril for 1,150 Palestinian terrorists held in our prisons. I do not see any inconsistency between the two attitudes. If the military option is possible, then I am in favor of using it. When it is impossible and when Israeli soldiers we send into battle are in the hands of terrorists, I do not feel I have the right to tell the Israeli people that we can do nothing for them and that we do not care what happens to them.

We are engaged in a long war against terrorism and I do not share the Americans' sacred principle that we must never negotiate with terrorists under any circumstances.

Bomb Wounds 10 in Gaza; 'Extremists' Suspected

TA240715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Ten people were wounded in Gaza early this morning during a wedding celebration when an explosive charge planted inside a pipe was thrown at the celebrants. Four people suffered medium wounds, while others were injured slightly. The background to the incident remains unclear. However, police are investigating the possibility that religious extremists wanted to disrupt the wedding to protest the violation of Islamic law by the celebrants.

Strike in Arab Sector; West Bank Schools Closed

TA240506 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] There is a general strike in the Arab sector today. The Committee of Arab Local Council Heads is demanding that 50 million shekels be allocated to the councils, 1,500 classrooms be built, changes be made to the curriculum, and the demolition of illegally-built buildings be stopped. However, the civics and history matriculation examinations in the Arab schools will be held as planned. School representatives can obtain the examination papers in bank branches beginning at 0830.

Despite the strike, our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that bus traffic in many Galilee villages is heavy and workers are leaving for their jobs, although their precise number is unknown. The Golan Heights Druze villages have not joined the strike. The Galilee subdistrict police have reported no incidents so far.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that pamphlets were distributed in the territories last night calling for a general strike, apparently as a show of solidarity with Israeli Arabs. The commander of the Central Command has ordered two universities — Al-Najah University in Nablus and Abu-Dis College in Bethlehem — to be closed down for 24 hours for fear of disturbances.

'Ali 'Usayran, Aide Released; Glass Still Held

Glass Fate 'Unknown'

NC240658 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0648 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] It has been confirmed that the defense minister's son and his aide were released this morning. The two, along with U.S. journalist Charles Glass, whose fate remains unknown, were kidnapped in the Al-Awza'i area last week. According to security reports, 'Ali 'Usayran departed for his father's house in Al-Rumaylah immediately upon his release, and then traveled to Sidon where he is now residing at a relative's home. He declined to talk about his kidnapping and release. He is now relaxing at the seaside.

Meanwhile, policeman Sulayman Sulayman left for the defense minister's house, traveling in the same Volvo automobile which he was driving at the time of the kidnapping.

'Usayran, Driver Go To Sidon

NC240811 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0802 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] According to a security source, the release of 'Ali 'Usayran and his driver, policeman Sulayman Sulayman, at 0700 this morning surprised the public because it did not include U.S. journalist Charles Glass. 'Ali 'Usayran made no statement on this issue. The defense minister's son took his car and both he and his driver immediately went to Sidon where his father has a house. The source added that 'Ali 'Usayran's release took place in Sidon [as heard].

'Ali 'Usayran Not Talking

NC241002 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0952 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran has said that he knows nothing about the fate of U.S. journalist Charles Glass except that he is still alive. He expressed his hope that Glass will be released soon. The defense minister added that he will spare no efforts to secure his release. He conveyed thanks to all who hadexpressed sympathy and concern over the kidnapping of his son.

According to available information, Syrian Colonel Amir Tallah and Hizballah information official 'Abdallah al-Amin arrived at Minister 'Adil 'Usayran's residence at 1130 today. After the closed meeting, it was declared that 'Ali 'Usayran will not talk to anyone today.

'Usayran Held by Iranians

NC241257 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1245 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Security sources have confirmed that 'Ali 'Usayran was being held by Iranian Revolutionary Guards in Beirut's southern suburbs.

In an interview with DPA, the sister of 'Ali 'Usayran said that she has learned from her brother that he and his companion were released near a Hizballah center in the southern suburb.

'Usayran Knows Kidnappers

NC241145 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1124 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] According to certain reports, the kidnappers of Defense Minister 'Usayran's son and his two companions threatened to kill them if the Syrians attempted a military rescue operation.

The reports add that the release of 'Usayran's son and the policeman accompanying him will be followed by an effort to release the American citizen now that 'Ali 'Usayran has identified the kidnappers and their locations. The reports say that one of the kidnappers is a brother-in-law of Muhammad 'Ali Hamadi, who is being detained in the FRG. They further disclose that the kidnappers are headed by a Hizballah member who is an aide to a party official close to Syria. The reports reveal that this is why soldiers at the Syrian checkpoint, where the kidnapping occurred, did not act. They did so on the pretext that the kidnappers were carrying important orders from Syrian intelligence and were riding in a car without a license plate. During the operation, the person in charge of the Syrian checkpoint informed the Syrian Command that he did not interfere because he believed the car belonged to Syrian intelligence and an allied organization.

Violence in Southern Suburb Continues

Hizballah Alerts Gunmen

NC231209 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The security situation in the southern suburb [of Beirut] has eased. The opposing sides have exchanged hostages. However, Syrian intervention in the suburb has not ended. When news of fighting between Al-Miqdad family members and an Amal Movement group was reported, Hizballah officials in the Al-Biqa' met several times. The purpose of their meetings was to devise a plan to assist the party's followers in Beirut and the suburb in the event that developments were to lead to a Syrian entry there. According to reports, Hizballah alerted more than 1,500 of its gunmen. Preparations were made for transporting them to the southern suburb if the fighting resumed and they had to face the Syrians. Hizballah officials also have announced that Syrians will enter the suburb only over the dead bodies of its fighters. They asserted that the hostages' lives will be endangered if Hizballah is pressured on this issue.

Hizballah Denies Kidnapping

NC231316 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] In a statement it issued today, Hizballah affirmed that events in the southern suburb are not a conflict between it and the Amal Movement. They affirm instead that intelligence ser-

vices and hostile factions instigated these events to frustrate the Islamic resistance. Hizballah urged all sincere people to work to return the situation to normal.

The party again denied any connection with the kidnapping of 'Ali 'Adil 'Usayran. It called on the people to be careful and aware of the plot that lies behind the instigation campaign.

Syria Rotates Forces

NC231230 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Security sources have been evaluating the rotation of Syrian brigades which took place last week in the Upper al-Matn area. The rotation included the 62d Brigade led by Colonel 'Adil Zahr al-Din, which was comprised primarily of Syrian Druze. A group from the Syrian special units replaced this brigade.

According to reports received by the Voice of Lebanon, Syrian Socialist Nationalist Party [SSNP] members in Upper al-Matn had lodged several complaints and protests against the presence of the 62d Brigade because of its sympathy with the Druze. The SSNP was particularly angered by Minister Junblatt's refusal, during the discussions in Damascus under Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, to any reconciliation with the Syrian nationalists.

The security sources note that the special units have not yet taken any fixed positions. Rather, they have been content to deploy reconnaissance patrols in the area on the basis of information supplied by the SSNP.

It is known that the Russians advised, or rather pressured, Junblatt to improve his relations with the Syrians. He gave them Abu Haytham following reports that he was behind the assassination of Shaykh Subhi al-Salih in West Beirut.

Security Plan Being Prepared

NC231701 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The *Al-Mashriq News Agency* has cited political sources as saying that discussions are underway to prepare a security plan for the southern suburbs [of Beirut]. According to the plan, the 6th Brigade and the internal security forces will take charge of security in the suburbs. Syrian observers may possibly join these forces. Should this plan fail, the agency adds, the Higher Shi'ite Council could request an extension of the Syrian security plan to the suburbs.

Iran's Envoy on Southern Suburb

NC240540 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0445 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Iranian Ambassador to Lebanon Ahmad Dastmalchiyan contacted Shaykh Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Shi'ite Council, last night. He conveyed to him the Iranian leadership's position toward the current events in the southern suburb. The ambassador affirmed that Iranian leaders stress the need for keeping Hizballah and the southern suburb far from Syrian control.

British Ambassador Comments on Hostages

NC231358 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1315 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] British Ambassador John Gray and Ambassador Fu'ad al-Turk, secretary general of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry, met today. Following the meeting, Gray was asked about the whereabouts of the hostages. He said: There are various reports on the location of Terry Waite and the other hostages. But we do not have the means to confirm these reports, which indicate that the British and other hostages are still alive and are being held by fundamentalist elements in the southern suburbs.

Gray added: Other reports indicate that some of the hostages have been moved to Al-Biqa' and some are now in Iran. He said: We have received no communication from the kidnappers of Terry Waite and John McCarthy, which limits the British Government's ability to act.

Amal Official Hamiyah Escapes Assassination

NC231910 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] A security source in the Amal Movement has stated that 'Aql Hamiyah, the Amal Movement's official in charge of military affairs, escaped an assassination attempt at 1745 today in the Bi'r al-'Abd area. The incident occurred as he was trying to contain the repercussions of clashes in the southern suburbs yesterday. Several delegations and individuals visited him after the attempt to congratulate him on his escape.

Lebanese Forces Urge 'Charter of Liberation'

NC231805 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1545 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Statement issued by the Lebanese Forces Command Council following a meeting under Council Chairman Dr Samir Ja'ja' on 23 June]

[Excerpts] Eleven years after the Syrian forces entered Lebanon, the entire world now realizes their real objective in dispatching military forces to this country in 1976. Their aim was to swallow Lebanon gradually, piece-by-piece. [passage omitted]

After controlling vast areas of Lebanese territory and stifling free will there, the Syrians tried to eliminate Lebanon as a free and independent entity. To this end, they sought to control legitimate authority. They tightened their control over executive power by manipulating most ministers in the so-called Government of National Unity. They then obstructed this government through the practice of boycotting the regime and president. They also obstructed the role of the Chamber of Deputies, sometimes through force, sometimes through terrorism, and always through pressure. They tried to pressure the president of the Republic to

force him to submit to their demands. They threatened to strip him of his constitutional powers as a prelude to controlling legitimate authority in Lebanon and bending it to their will. [passage omitted]

In view of this reality, the Lebanese Forces declare:

1. The battle of liberation has priority over any other battle. The real battle today is between the advocates of liberation and the advocates of surrender to Syrian occupation.

2. Lebanon's unification cannot be achieved without the total liberation of its territory from all foreign armies and forces. Unification while these armies and forces are present in Lebanon is synonymous with discord, and unification under the shadow of Syrian occupation means the end of Lebanon, its freedom, and its sovereignty.

3. The yardstick for patriotism from now on is the answer to the question: Who supports an independent Lebanon, and who supports an occupied Lebanon? There can be no division in loyalty to the homeland, and there can be no duplicity in true patriotism.

4. The Lebanese Forces call on all Lebanese factions, whether military, political, party, popular, or trade union groups, and on all areas and communities to adopt a charter of liberation based on the principle of ousting all foreign armies and forces from Lebanon by every means and by various methods.

5. The Lebanese Forces stress the need for the establishment of an independent government comprised of national and political figures who represent the Lebanese conscience and free will. In 1943 Lebanon gained its first independence thanks to a handful of sincere men. Today the Lebanese Forces call upon all Lebanese to unite to achieve future independence through the blood of martyrs.

PSP Official Held by Syrians Reportedly Killed

NC231942 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] PSP sources are circulating reports that PSP official Abu Haytham, who was being detained by the Syrians, has been killed. They offer no further details. Minister Walid Junblatt is to hold a news conference on Friday, at which time he is expected to reveal the changes he has made within the PSP and to discuss the Haytham issue. Haytham was handed over to the Syrians after reports surfaced that he was behind the assassination of Shaykh Subhi al-Salih in West Beirut. He had also sent a booby-trapped pen to Minister Walid Junblatt in an attempt to assassinate him.

Gunmen Kill Army Captain in Tyre District

NC240824 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0810 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Unknown gunmen ambushed Lebanese Army Captain Kazim Darwish between Al-Hawsh and 'Ayn B'al Townships in Tyre District at 0800 this morning. Gunmen inside a Mercedes automobile intercepted him as he was passing and opened fire. Three bullets in the chest killed him instantly.

Amal groups have moved into and surrounded the area. They are searching for the gunmen. The captain's corpse has been moved to 'Amil Hospital in Tyre.

King Husayn Arrives, Meets Al-Asad 24 Jun

JN241017 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Damascus today on a short working visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. He is accompanied by Zayd al-Rifa'i, prime minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; and 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of Court.

During his visit, His Majesty King Husayn will meet with President Hafiz al-Asad as part of the regular consultations and coordination between the two great leaders on various Arab issues. The meeting is also part of the efforts being made to achieve Arab solidarity.

His majesty was received at Damascus airport by President Hafiz al-Asad, Vice Presidents 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, deputy prime ministers, ministers, and the Jordanian Ambassador in Damascus 'Ali Khurays.

Talks between King Husayn and President Hafiz al-Asad began at the Presidential Palace following his majesty's arrival. The two distinguished leaders met privately.

King Husayn left Amman this morning. He was seen off at Amman airport by Prince Muhammad, the king's personal representative; Field Marshal Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; the chief of the royal household; the secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court; and senior civilian and military officials.

Al-Asad Receives Kuwaiti Minister 23 Jun

JN231406 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Sa'ud al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs, at 1330 today in Damascus. 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Damascus also attended the meeting. Al-'Usaymi conveyed to the president a message from Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait. The president then replied with his own message. Talks revolved around the current situation in the region and issues of mutual interest.

Reportage on CSSR Foreign Minister's Visit

Statement Upon Arrival

JN231601 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus, 23 Jun (SANA) — In a statement upon arrival in Damascus today, CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek stressed his country's full support for Syria's policy to eliminate the effects of Israeli aggression in the Middle East. He added that Syria's policy, under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership, is that of a great country which has enormous prestige and an impressive international reputation. Therefore, he added, we want to discuss major international issues with our Syrian friends in light of current circumstances. It seems that we have succeeded in stopping the escalation of tension.

He noted: We will apprise our Syrian friends of the situation in Europe and of the disarmament process. We will express our support for a peaceful solution to the Middle East question. We will also discuss the issue of convening an international Middle East conference and all the steps which may help the Palestinian Arab people to attain their just rights as soon as possible.

Chnoupek pointed out that his visit to Syria falls within the framework of enhancing bilateral friendship and cooperation. He said that it is a followup to the results of the fruitful talks President Hafiz al-Asad held with President Gustav Husak during his visit to the CSSR.

In conclusion, he stated that his talks with Syrian officials will cover political, economic, and other relations and ways to bolster and develop them.

Meets With Prime Minister

JN231848 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek and his accompanying delegation at 1800 today. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the CSSR ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, the CSSR minister conveyed the greetings of CSSR Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal to Dr al-Kasm, who in turn requested that he convey his greetings to the CSSR prime minister. Political matters and issues of interest to both friendly countries were discussed. Talks also focused on the firm friendly relations and the advanced cooperation between Syria and the CSSR. This cooperation is expanding in political, economic, technical, and other areas.

Both sides stressed that the views expressed during the meeting were identical on all issues reviewed. The CSSR minister also stated his country's firm and continuous support for Syria's struggle under President Hafiz al-Asad's wise and courageous leadership which confronts all challenges.

The prime minister praised the CSSR's policy in support of Syria and the Arabs. He also lauded effective Syrian-CSSR cooperation in all fields.

Begins Talks With Al-Shar'

JN240539 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The Syrian and CSSR delegations began talks at the Foreign Ministry last night. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' led the Syrian team and Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek led the CSSR representatives. The discussions dealt with bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation in all areas.

Solidarity Teams Meet

JN240617 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The Syrian Solidarity Committee delegation led by Comrade Ahmad al-As'ad, deputy chairman of the Syrian Solidarity Committee, received the members of a CSSR Solidarity Committee delegation at the Afro-Asian Committee's headquarters in Damascus yesterday. The two delegations reviewed relations between the two committees. They also discussed ways to promote them in light of the developed relations between the peoples of the two friendly countries.

The Syrians briefed the CSSR delegation on current developments in the Arab world. They also informed the CSSR team of Syria's firm and principled stand under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general Comrade Hafiz al-Asad in the face of the Zionist-imperialist challenges. The head of the Syrian delegation expressed appreciation for the CSSR's support of the Arab cause.

The members of the guest delegation reiterated their country's support for our country's steadfastness. They praised Syria's policy toward the imperialist-Zionist plans in the region.

Khaddam Returns Home After Algeria, Libya Visits

JN240541 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0415 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam returned to Damascus last night following short working visits to Algeria and Libya. During these visits, he met with President Chadli Bendjedid and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Khaddam conveyed two messages from President al-Asad to the Algerian and Libyan presidents on current developments in the Arab arena. He also exchanged views with the two leaders on various issues of mutual interest.

AFP: Diplomats Confirm Downing of Second AN-26

BK231312 Hong Kong AFP in English
1300 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Islamabad, June 23 (AFP) -- Western diplomats here Tuesday confirmed the death of 43 people in a second Soviet plane crash in Afghanistan this month.

Official Afghan sources, confirming only one crash, reported that a guerrilla missile hit a Soviet-made AN-26 transport plane in Zabol Province on June 11 killing 53 of the 55 people on board.

Diplomats said another AN-26 was downed by rebels near the northern Afghan province of Mazar-e Sharif on June 14 or 15 and all 43 perished.

Quoting an Afghan informant they said the regime wanted to announce the crash on radio and television but a last minute change led to a total blackout of the news.

The report of the second crash within a week was first published abroad.

The diplomats said the report was concealed to avoid too much concern among AN-26 passengers and crew after the June 11 downing of the same type of aircraft by a rebel missile.

They said mujahidin also downed two helicopters in Mazar-e Sharif area during the first week of June while an unconfirmed report said two Soviet jets crashed at Kabul Airport last week.

Najibullah, Keshtmand Attend Journalists' Meeting

LD240834 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0415 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Kabul, June 23, *Bakhtar* — Conference of journalists of the non-aligned countries was opened today here by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA.

Inaugurating the conference, S.A. Keshtmand said, "Our noble objectives and deeds, efforts to establish a world void of nuclear weapons, to support national liberation movements of the peoples in their struggle against world imperialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination, for the establishment of a new just international economic and information order and overcoming poverty and backwardness have brought together journalists of non-aligned countries here in Kabul."

75 delegates from 40 countries and a number of International Organisation of Journalists have participated at the conference.

Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, delivered a speech at the opening session of the conference.

The conference will last three days.

Najibullah Speaks on Defense of Islam

LD221934 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 21 Jun 87

[Speech by Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, at the shrine of Hazrat-e Ali in Mazar-e Sharif during a tour of Mazar-e Sharif city; date not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [Koranic verse omitted] Dear Muslim and noble compatriots, peace and the blessings of God be upon you. I am happy to be meeting my brothers and compatriots of the same faith at this sacred tomb of the fourth caliph of Islam.

This holy tomb, where there are thousands and thousands of white doves of peace — doves which murmur the name of God and are the messengers of peace and sincerity — is a great source of inspiration to us in pursuing peace and in maintaining purity and honesty. All Muslims of the world pay respect to the personality of Hazrat-e Ali, the fourth caliph of Islam, an example of courage and the true and powerful mujahidin of the path of righteousness, justice, fraternity, peace, and brotherhood. The faithful people of our land come annually to this great man's shrine from every part of the country and stretch their hands in prayer to Almighty God. As you know, we have always followed this tradition and will continue to do so.

Our compatriots are proud of the fact that from the the very beginning of Islam, 23 years after the flight of the great prophet, they accepted this religion. Our fathers and forefathers courageously spread the sacred religion of Islam in neighboring regions. Our country has been famous as the cradle of Islamic civilization and culture and the possessor of genuises. The great personalities of Islam have risen from this land. [passage omitted]

We are proud that after the April Revolution, our people were able to think decisively about their religious tenets and rites. They believe that Islamic culture and education will blossom further and that their religious holy places will be greatly respected and safeguarded. It is clear to all our compatriots and to the people of the world that it was only after the April Revolution that the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Supreme Council of Ulema and Religious Leaders was formed to organize and maintain further services with regard to religious matters. These organizations nowhave many facilities throughout the country.

Today, more than 16,000 mullahs, preachers, and clergy of mosques and buildings used for religious activities [takia khana] receive monthly salaries from the state budget. During the past 8 years, the government has spent 2 billion afghanis on religious education and continues to do so. Some 237 new mosques have been built and 1,180 mosques that had been damaged by the extremist counterrevolutionary bands have been repaired. In our country today, 10 theology schools and [words indistinct] are functioning and have a total of 3,140 students. In addition, one shari'ah faculty, within the framework of higher religious education, is functioning. For the first time in the history of the country, the state has formed a religious education research center. [passage omitted]

During the year 1986, which ended 20 March 1987, only a sum of 14 million afghanis was spent to repair and carpet the tomb of Hazrat-e 'Ali; the faithful people of Mazar-e Sharif are witnesses to this fact. Because of a state decision, this year only some 7,000 pilgrims will visit Mecca and the state so far has offered them the sum of 726 million afghanis to do so. Another 40 million afghanis have been offered to those who visit the Karbala'. [passage omitted]

Dear compatriots, let us see who has unleashed the hue and cry in defending Islam. Who is conducting a war against the Muslims of Afghanistan in the name of defending Islam? What are they doing? During these years of undeclared war, they have martyred some (?971) religious ulema who were engaged in preaching the path of truth and righteousness and who were leading prayers. They have destroyed or damaged some (?254) mosques. We are aware of the treacherous and anti-Islamic attack by the extremists at the holy site of the Kherqa-e Mobarak [tomb of the Prophet's cloak] in Qandahar. Our compatriots know how these false defenders of Islam encroached upon the pure sanctuary of Kherqa-e Mobarak and stained it with the blood of Mawlawi Mohammad Nabi, the [words indistinct] of the mosque. [passage omitted]

Muslim brothers, we are witnesses to the bitter fact that because of the undeclared imposed war, thousands and thousands of Afghans have been killed by Afghans and our poor country has lost billions of afghanis as a result. It was due to this principle that the DRA, in accordance with a proposal made by the Council of Ulema and Religious leaders, declared the policy of national reconciliation. The declaration of this policy was the diktat of the sacred religion of Islam and [words indistinct] of the essence of our revolution. Peace in the sacred religion of Islam is the (?most common word) and the appears in more than one hundred instances in the holy Koran. Therefore, in the extraordinary Central Committee plenum in January, our party announced the policy of national reconciliation, and in the June plenum established methods for its most practical implementation.

We are happy that religious leaders and preachers want to form an Islamic party that will defend national reconciliation. Let the religious leaders and preachers of mosques in Mazar-e Sharif organize this party; we support this sacred and noble aspiration.

On this occasion, we once again invite our brothers inside and outside the country to put an end to the killing, discord, and bloodshed. We are a Muslim country. Our people are Muslims. Let us, in accordance with the orders of Almighty God, (?pursue the path) of God and safeguard our unity and solidarity.

I pray to God in this sacred place to establish lasting peace in our country. Success comes from God.

Tiwari Briefs Committee on PRC Talks, U.S. Ties

BK231622 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The external affairs minister is to pay an official visit to China later this year. The visit is at the invitation of the Chinese Government. This information was given by Mr N.D. Tiwari to the members of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee of his ministry in New Delhi today. He said his talks with the Chinese leaders during his recent stopover in Beijing had cleared the way for the visit.

Mr Tiwari also disclosed that the next round of Sino-Indian talks on the border issue is likely to be held in November this year. The members were of the view that efforts should be made to normalize Sino-Indian relations. All outstanding issues with China should be resolved through dialogue and reconciliation. Mr Tiwari told the members that India has conveyed to China that it is deeply committed to maintaining peace and tranquillity all along the Sino-Indian border. Indian troops had strict instructions not to cross the international border and they had not done so.

On trade and economic relations, the two sides felt there is scope for considerable expansion and an appropriate forum should be set up for this purpose.

During the meeting, the minister also briefed the members on Indo-U.S. relations. He told them that the U.S. Government has informed India that it has agreed in principle to provide sophisticated AWACS to Pakistan. The U.S. authorities are yet to decide on the type of AWACS to be given to Pakistan.

USSR To Help Construct Hydroelectric Complex

BK231404 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have signed an agreement for the construction of the 24,000-megawatt hydroelectric complex at Tehri in the northern State of Uttar Pradesh. The complex includes two hydroelectric plants, a power storage station, and a transmission line. The project, which will be the largest in South Asia, will begin operations in 1996.

Relief Supply Ship Sails for Sri Lanka

BK240941 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] The Indian cargo ship, *Island Pride*, left Madras for Kankesanturai in Sri Lanka this morning with relief supplies for the suffering people of Jaffna. It is carrying over 800 tons of rice, edible oil, flour, salt, milk powder, medicines, kerosene, and other essential items. A passenger liner, *Srivastava*, with Red Cross officials and newsmen on board, is accompanying the relief ship. They are expected to reach Kankesanturai tomorrow morning.

Our Madras correspondent, Perumal, covering the operation, reports that the supplies were loaded in a record 19 hours with dock workers working round the clock. Our correspondent reports that the Sri Lankan commissioner, Mr Jayesinghe, and other officials who were to accompany the relief ship did not go with them. According to the leader of the relief mission, Mr M.D. Moses, the Sri Lankan authorities told him that there is no need for them to accompany the mission since top-level Sri Lankan officials will receive the relief supplies at Kankesanturai. Mr Moses said that his attempts to persuade them to go along did not yield any result.

As already reported, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] has said that it will cease all armed action from the moment the Indian relief ship arrives in Jaffna to facilitate the distribution work. It has called upon the Sri Lankan Armed Forces to observe a similar cease-fire.

Our Colombo correspondent, Piabon Majumder, reports that Sri Lanka has reacted cautiously to the LTTE announcement about a temporary cease-fire. The defense secretary, General Sepala Attygalle, told a government-owned newspaper that Colombo is not at war with anyone, and hence the question of cease-fire does not arise. He however said that his government will cooperate fully in the distribution of Indian relief supplies.

BJP To Abstain From Presidential Election

BK231332 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] has decided to abstain from the forthcoming presidential poll. This was decided at a joint meeting of the Central Election Committee and central office-bearers of the party presided [over] by the BJP president, Mr L.K. Advani. A party spokesman said in New Delhi today that the party deplores the manner in which both the Congress-I and the opposition have selected their candidates for the highest office.

Congress-I Reviews Haryana Election Upset

BK221612 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] The Congress-I working committee met in New Delhi and considered the economic and political situation. The party chief, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, presided.

Briefing newsmen, the party general secretary, Mr Naval Kishore Sharma, said the meeting discussed in detail the electoral reverse in Haryana. It was decided to set up a group to look into the reasons. The working committee also decided to set up separate groups on socio-economic programs and institutional reforms to help the poor. The committees are to submit reports within a month.

The Congress-I working committee expressed grave concern over communal incidents. It appealed to all patriotic, secular and progressive forces to work together to root out communalism. The meeting authorized the party president to set up a committee to suggest both short- and long-term measures to check communal incidents.

Answering a question, Mr Naval Kishore Sharma said the AICC-I [All India Congress Committee-I] session will be held in August and organizational elections will be completed by January next.

Haryana Chief Demands New Elections in Punjab

BK230924 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] The Haryana chief minister, Mr Devi Lal, said the Punjab Accord is not acceptable to his government. Addressing a news conference at the Chandigarh airport today, Mr Devi Lal demanded fresh elections in Punjab and said that talks should be held with the party voted to power. He said there is no representative body in Punjab with which Haryana can hold talks on the problems concerning the two states. Mr Devi Lal said the decision on the expansion of the cabinet and convening of the session of the legislative assembly will be taken after discussions.

3 Killed in Continuing Punjab Violence

BK231606 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] In Punjab, an assistant subinspector [ASI] of police, a head constable, and a bank guard were killed by terrorists today in three separate incidents. The ASI was gunned down by two terrorists near (Jahan Khelan) in Hoshiarpur District this morning. The terrorists escaped on a scooter after taking away the loaded service revolver of the victim.

In Ferozepore District, half a dozen terrorists shot dead a police head constable in a village near (Dharamkot) police station. A constable who was with him was injured. The terrorists took away their rifles.

In the third incident, two terrorists shot dead the guard of a bank near Sangat police station of Bhatinda District and looted 50,000 rupees from the bank.

The Punjab governor, Mr S.S. Ray, called on the president in New Delhi today. He was with Giani Zail Singh for half an hour. The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, also called on the president.

BJP Leader Killed

BK240427 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Terrorists killed a local BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leader, Mr Prakash Lal, yesterday at village Haltabadla in Hoshiarpur District. The victim was attacked at his brick kiln. Two terrorists who shot dead a head constable in Ferozepore District earlier were killed in an encounter with the police yesterday. Police raided a hide-out of terrorists in Ludhiana last night and recovered a large number of luxury items believed to have been bought with the money looted from a bank in Ludhiana in February.

Gurkha-Sponsored Strike Continues in West Bengal

BK231314 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpts] In West Bengal, violence continued unabated in the Darjeeling hill areas today on the 4th day of the 13-day GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] sponsored bundh [strike]. [passage omitted]

A report from Kalimpong says a bomb explosion damaged some shops. The bundh continues to disrupt normal life in the entire area. Shops, business establishments, central and state government offices, banks, and post offices are closed. Road transport and train services are not operating.

Sikkim continues to be cut off from the rest of the country. The state chief minister, Mr Nar Bahadur Bhandari, has urged the GNLF to exempt the National Highway No 31 from the purview of the bundh. Mr Bhandari also apprised central leaders and the West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, of the situation.

Police Sent to Darjeeling

BK240901 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] In West Bengal, additional companies of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] have been deployed in the Darjeeling hill areas amidst reports of continued violence on the 5th day of the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] sponsored 13-day bundh [strike]. Three CRPF companies arrived in Darjeeling and one in Kalimpong yesterday and two companies are being sent to Kurseong. Normal life continues to be affected today in the areas with shops and business establishments remaining closed and traffic off the road.

Our Kurseong and Siliguri correponsents report that GNLF activists attacked the (Faji) power house near Kurseong and set fire to its building. The DIG [deputy inspector general], Darjeeling range, said more police pickets have been posted at Faji and (Runchentong) power houses to prevent further attack. Some government offices in the area were also set on fire last night.

The district magistrate said that GNLF activists fired at a CRPF patrol party in Darjeeling last evening, injuring one of them. They also set on fire four primary schools and attempted to burn down a TB hospital in Darjeeling.

IRGC Official Suggests USSR Behind 'Stark' Attack

LD240755 Tehran IRNA in English 0749 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Bushehr, June 24, IRNA — Commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), Mohsen Rezai'e said here Tuesday that this year the Muslim forces of Iran will fight more powerfully than the previous year.

Speaking at the inauguration of the second IRGC naval zone here, Rezai'e cited a series of enemy attacks and tactics in the course of the Iraqi-imposed-war, all of which have proved to be futile. Once the enemy realised that it could not bend the will of the Iranian people through ground attacks, he continued, it moved to economic war and started bombardment of cities. When this also failed to have any effect it launched attacks on ships, he added.

He added, however once Iran retaliated, the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. put forward the proposal of escorting Kuwaiti ships, said the IRGC commander. The proposal to escort Kuwaiti ships was a reaction to victories of the Muslim forces of Iran last year which made the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. fearful. Once these powers realised that their indirect aid to the Baghdad regime did not yield any result, they intervened directly, Rezai'e added.

Further in his speech the IRGC commander said that according to political analyses the attack on the U.S. frigate *Stark* could be the work of the Soviets. The Soviets benefitted much from this act, said Rezai'e adding that Moscow in the new phase of helping Saddam intends directly to destroy all the bridges of the Baghdad regime to the West.

On recent Iranian operations ("Nasr-4") Rezai'e said they were launched at a time that the U.N. Security Council was going to make certain decisions and the operations fueled the armed uprising of the Iraqi people against the Baghdad regime, he added.

Syrian Charge Delivers Al-Shar' Message

LD241111 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] During a meeting with our country's deputy foreign minister, the Syrian charge d'affaires in Tehran handed him a message from Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' for Foreign Minister Velayati.

During the meeting, the Syrian charge d'affaires expressed his regret over the sudden and unforeseen illness of the Syrian prime minister, which caused a delay in the visit by Prime Minister Musavi to Damascus. He expressed the desire of his country's officials for Musavi to visit after the Syrian prime minister has recovered.

The Syrian charge d'affaires referred to visits to Damascus by a number of Iranian ministers. He said that these visits have produced very good results and demonstrate the depth of relations between the two countries.

Musavi Criticizes UN Security Council Response

LD241208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Interview with Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi by unidentified correspondent following the 24 June cabinet meeting; place not given -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Musavi, at the same time that the UN Security Council met to review the Iran-Iraq war, the regime ruling in Baghdad has resumed the use of chemical weapons on the battlefronts. Would you please comment on this issue?

[Musavi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. With regard to the UN Security Council, we have always held an opinion and still do, on the same thing; namely, we oppose any international organization whoever they might be and at whatever level, including the Security Council, that supports a regime with bias, especially if it supports tyranny. When our cities were occupied by Saddam and when he was destroying our cities, the Security Council said nothing. However, now that we are on the threshold of victory, it has become active, thanks to the provocation of the major powers. If it follows its earlier stand, the decisions of this Council will have no value for us; we declare this in advance.

The issue you have mentioned clearly illustrates this. A Security Council that remains silent in the face of crimes committed by the Saddam regime and that refuses to adopt a stand (?against chemical bombing) naturally has no right to express its views on the fate of this war. If it were to do so, it would have no effect, unless these organizations change their direction and expose the aggressor, condemn the aggressor, and suggest a way of trying the aggressor. These are the issues we raised. By implementing justice, the Security Council will find some respect among other nations and our nation. Otherwise, it is only natural that a resolution by the Security Council will be considered worthless.

[Question] Thank you.

[Musavi] You are welcome.

Tehran Comments on UN Security Council Agreement

LD231426 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1104 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. According to news agency reports, the five permanent members of the Security Council reached an agreement on ending the Iran-Iraq war. This agreement is to be conveyed to the other 10 members today so that they can review and decide on it next week. It was also stated that the 15 Security Council members have deferred their decision until the UN secretary general returns from his European trip. [passage omitted]

The important point to note is that after 5 months of secret and open discussions, the five permanent members have voted for the

nine-point proposal to end the war, but no information has been divulged so far on its contents.

No doubt one should appraise the proposal as another system designed for superpower influence in various areas and as another of their propaganda methods. The present plot is no different from past acts by the neocolonialists, who introduced suppression and aggression in the world under the guise of peace-seeking and freedom-seeking plans. [passage omitted]

Along with the plot hatched by arrogant superpowers — headed by the United States — to deal blows to the Islamic revolution, the Security Council took steps in line with the aims of those countries. In the 7 years since the outset of the imposed war, the United Nations has not been able to determine the aggressor in accordance with its Charter; the United Nation's first action should have been just that.

The Security Council has not taken any action regarding the most basic international principles and conventions, which have been repeatedly contravened and manipulated by the Iraqi regime. On the contrary, some permanent members of the Security Council who signed today's agreement have been principal supporters of the Iraqi regime since the outset of the war and are still backing the criminal rule of Iraq by supplying it with arms.

In view of the hostile and unprincipled stand of that Council, the Islamic Republic considers the Council's previous resolutions regarding the imposed war unacceptable and biased toward the Iraqi regime and states that its condition for attending the Council session and accepting its decisions is: The aggressor must be exposed and punished by that Council.

However, by ignoring the rightful demands of Islamic Iran and by considering the interests of the two sides, the Security Council seeks solutions that primarily serve the interests of the superpowers and the countries sending arms to the Iraqi regime and ultimately safeguards the Iraqi regime's existence. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Armacost — an influential man in that country — before and after the plan was approved by the five permanent Security Council members, said regarding Iran's victory in the war: The United States and the USSR cooperate to prevent Iran from winning the war against Iraq. I think, at least temporarily, we share one interest in the Persian Gulf — that is to prevent Iran's victory.

It is certain that the heroic nation of Iran and the Islamic fighters have never waited for the approval or disapproval of the superpowers. Our nation has not forgotten that the Security Council and the United Nations proposed a cease-fire to the Islamic Republic of Iran when the 'Aflaqi regime of Saddam had penetrated 50 km inside Iran. That resolution asked the aggressor regime of Iraq to withdraw its forces to the borders.

Also, the Muslim people of Iran will never forget the arms, propaganda, and political assistance given by the permanent members of the Security Council to the Iraqi regime, a step unprecedented in the history of wars in the world. [passage omitted]

It should be noted that the Muslim people and the mighty combatants are not interested in the secret and public approvals of these councils. If their representatives attend these councils occasionally and make their rightful demands heard, it is because they are looking for listeners whose consciences are relatively clear.

Therefore, at this juncture, the Security Council can only shed its murky past by determining the aggressor and preparing the ground for its punishment and by taking steps to end the war. Otherwise, any decision, which is taken in support of and to preserve the Baghdad regime will lead nowhere and the mighty fighters will have a decisive answer for the audacious enemy on the battle fronts.

Khomeyni Approves Relief Committee Manifesto

NC240525 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, Mr Habibollah Asghar-Owladi Mosalman submitted a manifesto on behalf of the Imam's Relief Committee's Central Council to His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni for his approval. The imam of the nation issued the following reply:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Esteemed members of the Relief Committee's Central Council. You, the first revolutionaries of the Islamic movement, have endured imprisonment and ordeals. I hope you continue to realize your sacred objective of serving the deprived stratum of society with greater ability. I pray the Almighty may bless you with greater rewards. May the manifesto you have drawn up meet with divine approval, God willing.

[Signed] Ruhollah ol-Musavi al-Khomeyni

Khamene'i Speaks at Islamic Propagation Meeting

LD230859 Tehran IRNA in English 0800 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 23, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Monday that the cultural roads made by world oppressors have far more graver consequences for Iran than their military attacks and economic domination.

Speaking at a ceremony marking the sixth anniversary of the creation of the Islamic Propagation Organisation (IPO) Khamene'i praised efforts of IPO in promoting Islam and effectively countering the domination of alien cultures.

Emphasizing the importance of Islamic propoagation the president invited people towards Islam. He said it must be made clear that the true path is only that of the genuine Islam and warned that presently many so-called Muslim countries are falsely claiming to be defenders of Islam.

In propagating Islam, the president told the audience priorities must become clear and controversies should be avoided. He called on committed and talented forces to promote Islamic teachings stressing that Islam's rationality enables it to over-

power various other ideologies in the world. Islam is so strong, powerful and rational, he said, that it defends itself.

Later in the ceremony the head of the IPO Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati addressed the gathering, briefing on six years of activity of the organisation especially in remote and deprived areas.

Musavi Addresses Tafresh Residents 23 June
LD231219 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpts] This morning in Tafresh, Prime Minister Musavi ceremonially laid the first stone to begin building a university in that town. We have received a report about the prime minister's tour of Tafresh, to which we draw your attention:

Prime Minister Musavi, accompanied by Culture and Higher Education Minister Farhadi, and by Rajai'e-Khorassani, permanent representative of Iran to the United Nations, arrived in Tafresh this morning to visit and to speak to the martyr-nurturing citizens of that town before inaugurating the establishment of the first university there. [passage omitted]

Later, the prime minister and his entourage participated in a meeting of various strata of Tafresh Muslims and resolute residents at the 28 June stadium.

In a detailed speech, the prime minister alluded to the present status enjoyed by the Islamic Revolution in the world and to the role played by various strata of the public in its victory. [passage omitted]

Noting the criminal silence on the part of international societies vis-a-vis violations of humanitarian norms and human rights by arrogant powers against the Islamic Revolution, the prime minister said: Today, the Security Council, (?and the world powers) which rule over it, is about to create an atmosphere, unaware that our people, relying upon themselves and on their genuine and Islamic principles, will never bow at its presence.

Addressing those attending, the prime minister added: Today, you are not only taken as (?a model of resistance) against the superpowers, but also as a model for all the world's oppressed.

Noting the importance of science and industry in advancing human societies, particularly in our country, the prime minister stated: Today, the arrogance of the West and the East have joined in their attempts to block entry by students to study sensitive scientific subjects at some universities because of they fear our people will progress and advance. Our duty today is to gain knowledge in advanced scientific subjects so that the Islamic cause may be advanced.

In conclusion, after praising the people and officials of the central province as well as those of Tafresh, the prime minister left amid an enthusiastic sending-off ceremony by residents of Tafresh.

'Deputy Leader' Montazeri Speaks in Qom
LD221358 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Excerpts] According to a Central News Unit report, a number of Pakistani Friday prayer leaders, university lecturers, and legal experts, who are in Iran at the invitation of the Council for the Supervision of Non-Iranian Clergy, met Grand Ayatollah Montazeri in Qom yesterday.

During the meeting, the deputy leader greeted them and said: Before the victory of the revolution, Iran was a U.S. base and a friend of Israel; it was not independent. The country's fate was determined by the White House. But, thanks to the Islamic revolution, the Americans were thrown out of this country. It was following the victory of the Iranian people that unfortunately the United States imposed this war on us.

At present the United States and its lackeys are supporting the Iraqi regime. Dollars from some Persian Gulf littoral states — which are U.S. puppets — have enabled the Iraqi Ba'thist regime to last for a few days.

He stressed: You clergymen, enlightened ones, academicians, and writers, who are committed and devoted to Islam and the independence of Islamic countries, should fight against U.S. and foreign influence in Islamic countries and your own country in every way possible. Of course, our enemy is not the U.S. nation. As in other nations, the U.S. people have a right to live; most of them are oppressed. But, 4-5 million capitalists and Zionists who are Israel's allies are in fact ruling the 300 million U.S. population. It is they who oppose Islam and the independence of Islamic countries.

Superficially, the United States claims it does not oppose Islam; but, after gaining influence in Islamic countries, it makes them dependent and imposes a decadent Western culture and morality.

Unfortunately, the wealth, oil, and financial resources of Islamic countries are presently being used to strengthen the United States; the Persian Gulf countries are doing nothing in the interests of Islam.

If Latin American people cannot stand on their own feet and are heavily dependent [on the United States] it is due to U.S policy which does not allow them to gain independence. Wherever the United States makes inroads, it tries to make that country dependent.

Referring to the ruthless mass slaughter of Muslims in India, he said: The Arab countries have not uttered a single word in condemnation or pity. Lebanon was invaded and everybody was silent. But the Islamic Republic, which is a follower of Islam and seeks independence, was attacked. They are supporting Saddam at present. They opened the door of the Persian Gulf to the United States and the USSR; this is not in their interests.

He stressed: We expect you brothers to increase your support for your Iranian brothers and combat internal strife which has been staged by the enemies of Islam in your country but which is in

fact beneficial to foreigners. The divide and rule thesis is Britian's colonialistic policy. [passage omitted]

Finally, the deputy leader prayed for the victory of the Islamic fighters in Iran, Lebanon, and Afghanistan and for good health and long life for his excellency the imam [Khomeyni], may God extend his shadow.

Ayatollah Meshkini Assails Kuwaiti 'Mischief'

LD230900 Tehran IRNA in English 0733 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Qom, June 23, IRNA — Friday Prayer leader of Qom and head of the Assembly of Experts, Ayatollah 'Ali Meshkini, deplored the French Government's action in expelling Muslim students from France and warned it against such provocations.

Ayatollah Meshkini was speaking at a ceremony here Monday marking the martyrdom anniversary of the Sixth Imam of the Prophet's household, Imam Ja'far Sadiq (A.S.).

The gathering included the 'combatant-cultural brigade of Imam Ja'far Sadiq (A.S.)' composed of theologians of the Qom Theological Schools.

Referring to the mischief of the Kuwaiti government the Ayatollah said that moves to invite superpowers to the Persian Gulf will ignite the wrath of the Iranian nation and also of the regional people.

Further in the ceremony a message from Majlis speaker and representative of Imam Khomeyni to the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani was read.

The Majlis speaker's message said that presence of theologians at the war fronts has had a great impact on boosting the morale of the Muslim forces of Iran. He pointed out that combatant theologians play a vital role in the outcome of the Iraqi-imposed war.

Mines, Metals Minister Leaves for Bulgaria

LD221336 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Mines and Metals Minister Mohammad Reza Ayatollahi left for Sofia this morning heading an economic delegation to exchange views on technological, economic and trade relations between Iran and Bulgaria.

In an interview before his departure, the mines and metals minister said: This visit is taking place at an invitation from Bunin, the Bulgarian mines and metallurgy minister, during which the officials of the two countries will pursue the context of a protocol of understanding signed in Farvardin [began 20 Mar 1987].

Furthermore, discussions will be held on joint cooperation in technological and methodological fields, which have been agreed upon in preliminary stages. The establishment of expert committees to attain decisive results as soon as possible will also be considered.

The mines and metals minister spoke of the friendly relations between Iran and Bulgaria, described bilateral economic relations as desirable and open to expansion, and also expressed the hope that the agreements in various fields would quickly attain the expected results.

Tehran Cautions Turkey Against 'Secular Circles'

NC230649 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Unattributed commentary: "Prime Minister Musavi's Visit to Turkey"]

[Text] Prime Ministers Musavi and Ozal reached agreement in principle during the final round of talks in Ankara on Tuesday [16 June] on the question of implementing the protocol for upgrading the volume of bilateral trade to $2 billion, improving cooperation in border security, increasing the volume of border trade, and implementing the provisions of the protocol drawn up by the Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO].

After returning to Tehran, Prime Minister Musavi described his talks in Turkey as positive, stating they were held in a sincere atmosphere. Musavi added that the volume of the two countries' trade could reach $2 billion. He said: A delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran will leave for Turkey in July to hold talks on that country's need for natural gas. Meanwhile, preparations have begun for the joint production of petrochemical products.

It must be recalled at this point that Turkish-Iranian trade relations were rather limited prior to the Islamic revolution. Cooperation between the two countries was limited to the framework of the organization known as the RCD, Regional Cooperation for Development, to which Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan belonged. The officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran gave serious consideration to economic and trade relations with Turkey following the victory of the Islamic Revolution. As their first move, they insisted on disbanding the RCD, which had been set up without due consideration for the three countries' true potentials and capabilities. Regardless of the political line and system in Turkey, the Iranian officials considered the Islmaic faith and the common values of the two countries' peoples as a sound basis for improving relations. In other words, they wished to improve these relations in accordance with the Islamic revolution's long-term strategy -- to achieve political and economic unity in the Islamic world.

It is common knowledge that economic relations between Iran and Turkey gained extraordinary momentum as a result of the effort to achieve Iran's revolutionary policy. When relations between the two countries were established as a result of Iran's initiatives, the trade volume increased eightfold in 1982, twenty-fold in 1983, and thirtyfold in 1984. The continuation of trade relations, which favored Turkey more than Iran, enabled Turkey

to occupy third place among the countries trading with the Islamic Republic of Iran in 1983, while it was thirty-sixth in 1978.

Turkey made significant profits from its trade relations with Iran. Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic made a major contribution toward the establishment of the ECO, comprising Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan to replace the RCD.

In any event, the large quantities of Iranian imports from Turkey, the efforts of Iranian officials to upgrade cooperation with Turkey within the ECO framework, the exchange of high-ranking political and economic delegations, the systematic establishment of joint commissions, and Prime Minister Musavi's second visit to Turkey -- which is the most important of all -- are the results of the revolutionary effort made by officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the future unity of the Muslim people of Turkey and the Islamic community.

In view of this, the Turkish Government must be vigilant and properly assess the stand of the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran and refrain from allowing itself to become an instrument used by the anti-religious and secular circles in their political blackmails and conspiracies.

Continuing Reportage on Operations Against Iraq

Kurds Attack Convoy Near Irbil

LD221810 Tehran IRNA in English 1757 GMT 22 Jun 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 22, IRNA — Numerous Iraqi troops were killed in an attack on a military convoy in Shaqlawah-Rawanduz area, east of Irbil, Sunday. The ambush was carried out by peshmergas of Iraqi Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) according to Ramadan Headquarters. Iraqi Troop, named Hadi Madhar Khazali was captured and a vehicle and an assortment of weapons were seized, the hqs. said.

Guards Storm Iraqi Positions

LD231310 Tehran IRNA in English 1250 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 23, IRNA — A unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) stormed Iraqi positions in the Changuleh operational theater western fronts, Monday night, killing 8 enemy soldiers and wounding 19 others. Three machine-gun emplacements and one mortar launcher of the Iraqi troops were destroyed in the lightning Iranian attack. The Iranian forces returned safely to bases after sucessfully carrying out the operations.

Kurds Attack Battalion Near Arbat

LD231316 Tehran IRNA in English 1245 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 23, IRNA — Twenty-six Iraqi soldiers were captured, 10 were killed and several others wounded when peshmergas of Iraq's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) attacked a commando company and battalion protecting Arbat city, northeastern Iraq, Monday night.

The PUK combatants seized intact 137 Kalashnikov guns, one machine gun, eight RPG-7 launchers, 20 light guns, four artillery pieces as well as logistic facilities of command battalions and companies. The combatants returned safety to their bases.

Iraqi Battalion 'Destroyed'

LD231619 Tehran IRNA in English 1544 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Operational Theater [as received], June 23, IRNA — Iraq's 'Vale Samt' artillery battalion stationed in eastern Al-Sulaymaniyah Province was destroyed completely during a joint guerrilla operation by commandos of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and Iraqi Kurdish peshmergas led by Mohammad Haji Mahmud.

According to Ramadan Headquarters which coordinates the joint attacks, four Iraqi defensive bases were also demolished by hundred percent and all Iraqi troops guarding them were killed during the said operations.

The operations were carried out in retaliation for the Baghdad regime's attacks on civilians in the northern Iraqi city of Zur and on Iran's Marivan City (Kurdistan Province).

During the operations launched at 02:00 hours Sunday (22:30 GMT Saturday), the Iraqi artillery battalion centre was totally smashed and its commander was killed in several hours of fierce clashes. A large number of Iraqi forces were killed, out of whom 65 have been counted so far. Several enemy forces were also captured during the operations, 30 of whom were transferred behind the fronts, until the time the report was initially transmitted.

Six 130-mm artillery pieces and 19 munitions depots were set afire and demolished while two anti-aircraft guns, two machine-guns, one command jeep and one vehicle of the Iraqi forces were destroyed.

A large amount of light arms and other munitions including 75 kalashnikov guns, 2 wireless units, 3 PRC wireless system units were seized intact by the Muslim combatants.

The destroyed enemy base was in-charge of shelling Iran's Marivan city as well as Iraq's own city of Zur whose people are up in arms against the ruling regime.

Communique No 2,876

LD231702 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 23, IRNA — Another Iraqi warplane was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in Panjwin theater, north-western fronts, at 10:57 GMT Tuesday, said a Military Communique released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces here today.

The 2876th Joint Staff Communique said that Iranian ground and Gendarmerie forces smashed penetration operations launched by an Iraqi battalion in Mehran, western fronts, early Monday, killing at least 50 enemy soldiers and forcing the rest

to retreat. Some enemy weapons, ammunition and other military equipment were also seized intact.

Iranian artillery fire killed 10 Iraqi soldiers in areas overlooking Marivan, northwestern fronts, and five others in a southern front Monday. In Hajj 'Umran, several enemy munitions dumps and gun emplacements together with three trucks were set ablaze yesterday.

Throughout the front Monday, Iraqi forces suffered substantial losses in men and equipment in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Helicopter Downed

LD240903 Tehran IRNA in English 0856 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June, 24, IRNA — An Iraqi Super Frelon helicopter was shot down in a dog fight by Iranian fighter bombers over Bushehr port's waters Wednesday. The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said the helictoper was shot after it had attacked a foreign commercial ship in Bushehr waters at 00:45 hours Wednesday (21:15 GMT Tuesday).

Iraqi Counterattack 'Smashed'

LD240939 Tehran IRNA in English 0950 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Western Operational Theater, June 24, IRNA — An Iraqi counter-offensive was smashed heavily in the "Nasr-4" operational (?theater). The defeated enemy which sustained considerable casualties during the "Nasr-4" operations, and the liberation of Mawut town, tried to approach the defence lines of Muslim combatants by reorganising units from Brigade 608 of special forces and remnants of Brigade 603 and 22nd artillery unit of the Fourth Division. A large number of enemy forces were killed and wounded and a number of others were captured.

A battalion of Brigade 608 was smashed by 80 percent and units from Infantry Brigade 603 were destroyed. Lieutenant Colonel Hasan Qasim Muhammad commander of the 22nd artillery unit of the Fourth Division was also killed during the operations.

According to latest reports, Muslim combatants have complete control over all liberated positions and are preventing the enemy from reorganising its beaten units.

Continuing Reportage on Visit of PRC Premier

Calls on President Ziaul Haq

BK231718 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] China's Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this evening. Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo was also present. The president and the Chinese premier discussed a number of international and regional issues, including Afghanistan, the Gulf war, and the Middle East situation. They also talked about ways to further strengthen Sino-Pakistan relations in various fields, including trade.

The Chinese prime minister later attended a dinner hosted by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in his honor.

More on Zhao-Ziaul Haq Talks

BK240411 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang referred to the common views held by Pakistan and China on many important international issues, including a political solution for the Afghanistan problem.

Speaking at a dinner hosted by the president in honor of the Chinese prime minister in Islamabad last night, the two leaders said that their countries are connected by eternal ties of friendship, ties which are beneficial not only to Pakistan and China but to the entire world as well.

Referring to the issue of continued foreign military intervention in Afghanistan and Kampuchea, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq assertedthat Pakistan and China believe that no country has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of a weak neighboring state and to impose its views by force. The president said that Pakistan is making every effort to effect the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan. Certain recent moves indicate that the superpower has begun to realize that there is no possibility of a military solution to the Afghanistan problem; this festering wound can only be healed through talks. Pakistan is confident that the day is not far off when foreign forces will be withdrawn from Afghanistan and Afghan refugees will be able to return with dignity and honor to an independent, sovereign, and nonaligned Afghanistan.

Commenting on the Iran-Iraq war, Ziaul Haq said that combined efforts must be made to stop this conflict and the killing of innocent people. Referring to bilateral relations, the president noted that our unique friendship is based on close coordination in national interests and views. China has promoted its relations with Pakistan with sincerity, goodwill, and enthusiasm. He said that Pakistan-PRC friendship is reflected in the special contacts existing between the senior leaderships of the two countries.

In reply, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang lauded Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan. He said that we fully support Pakistan's efforts with regard to the withdrawal of all foreign forces and a just solution to this problem. China also praises Pakistan's positive role in safeguarding peace and stability and promoting cooperation in South Asia. Pakistan and the PRC hold common views on many international issues and are determined to increase bilateral relations. He said that Pakistan and China are sincere and trustworthy friends and that the friendship between the two countries is in accordance with the aspirations and the interests of the people in both nations. Pakistan and the PRC have broad and friendly relations. Mr Zhao Ziyang asserted that our hearts beat as one, that we respect each other, and that we trust one another. Both countries consider each other as equal and adhere to mutual cooperation with full understanding.

Before the dinner the Chinese premier met with the president. Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo was also present. Global and regional matters were discussed in detail during this session, which lasted an hour. They primarily reviewed the possibility of regional cooperation in South Asia. There was total unity in their views on important matters like Afghanistan, the Middle East, and the situation in South Asia.

Donation for Afghan Refugees

BK231612 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Text] China today donated a large quantity of relief goods for Afghan refugees. Qian Qichen, China's vice foreign minister, handed a list of relief materials for Afghan refugees living in Pakistan to Syed Qasim Shah, the federal minister for states, frontier regions, and Kashmir affairs, in Islamabad today. The relief materials include medicines, 1,250 tons of rice, 30 trucks, 1 million yards of cotton cloth, and 2 lakh pairs of shoes donated by the government and the people of China and the Chinese Red Cross Society.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chinese vice foreign minister called for the complete withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan in order to ensure that a political solution to this crisis can be found and that Afghan refugees can return home in safety and honor. The federal minister for states and frontier regions expressed heartfelt thanks to the friendly people of China on behalf of Pakistan and the Afghan refugees for the PRC's generous donation of relief goods.

In an interview later, the Chinese vice foreign said that the international community should play an important role in mitigating the sufferings of Afghan refugees. He noted that the number of Afghan refugees is very large, about one-third of the total population of Afghanistan, and that a majority of them are living in Pakistan, which places a heavy burden on its economy. He appreciated the efforts being made by Pakistan to provide assistance to Afghan refugees on humanitarian grounds.

Concludes Visit, Departs 24 Jun

BK240642 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 24 Jun 87

[Text] Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang was given an extremely cordial send off when he left Islamabad this morning after

concluding his 4-day official visit to Pakistan. Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo bade him farewell. Before boarding the plane, the Chinese premier reviewed an honor guard composed of members from the three branches of the Armed Forces. He was given a 19-gun salute while boarding. At the airport, a large group of people including children shouted slogans: "Long Live Pakistani-PRC Friendship," "Long Live Premier Zhao Ziyang,"and "Long Live Prime Minister Junejo."

Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Kham, National Assembly Speaker Hamid Nasir Chatha, federal ministers, parliament members, and diplomatic representatives were also present at the airport to bid farewell to the distinguished guest. Young girls showered the guest with flower petals.

In a statement before his departure, the Chinese premier said: I believe that the friendly relations and the bilateral cooperation which exists between the PRC and Pakistan will continue to grow with the passage of time.

PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang Arrives for Visit

For PRC media coverage of the visit of Premier Zhao Ziyang to Pakistan, see the Near East & South Asia section of the 22 June China *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

National Assembly Adopts Amended Budget Proposals

BK231652 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpt] The National Assembly today adopted the finance bill in an amended form, giving legal status to the fiscal measures of the federal budget for next fiscal year.

The house also adopted a number of amendments as announced by Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

These include the withdrawal of the defense tax proposal and additional surcharges on domestic consumption of gas and electricity and the return of prices of diesel and kerosene oil to the prebudget level.

The amendments were moved by Finance Minister Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Wattoo.

Bringing discussion on the bill to a close, the finance minister said that the passage of the bill will provide relief and benefits to the people, thus reflecting the concern of the elected government for the common man. [passage omitted]

Sinhalese Group on Government 'Capitulation'

BK231214 Hong Kong AFP in English
1110 GMT 23 Jun 87

[By Barry Parker]

[Text] Colombo, June 23 (AFP) — A wave of anger is building up in Sri Lanka over its agreement to accept Indian relief aid Wednesday for the Tamils of the Jaffna Peninsula. Colombo decided last week to accept food and medical supplies by sea from India for the northern peninsula despite its strong denials of charges that Tamils there are facing starvation because of the Tamil separatist conflict.

"Public opinion is very angry and very critical of the entire operation," said a spokesman for the Federation of Sinhala Organizations (FSO), an umbrella body for some 30 groups which claims to represent the broadest spectrum of opinion among Sri Lanka's Sinhalese and Buddhist majority.

Spokesman Gamini Iriyagolle, a leading lawyer, said the government was abdicating its role by agreeing to India's demands to send unwanted aid and to monitor its distribution on the peninsula.

Agreement was reached on June 15 after the Indian Air Force dropped 25 tons of supplies over Jaffna on June 4. Two days earlier the Sri Lankan Navy had turned back fishing boats hired by the Indian Government to carry aid to Jaffna.

"It is a political act by India and amounts to an intervention, although not by the force of arms this time," Mr. Iriyagolle said.

An unarmed Indian vessel is set to sail from Madras Wednesday loaded with some 300 to 400 tons of supplies. It will be escorted through Sri Lankan waters by the navy to the peninsula's port of Kankesanthurai, officials said. Two Indian officials and six Indian Red Cross representatives are to participate in distributing supplies with Sri Lankan officials.

"This will be the first time that there has been an Indian physical presence on the peninsula in relation to the Tamil problem," Mr. Iriyagolle said. "It is bad enough India is sheltering Tamil terrorists," he added, referring to New Delhi's agreement to allow Tamil guerrilla groups to maintain offices in southern India.

The independent newspaper *The Island* underlined the strong feelings against Indian aid Tuesday. "Never mind if the ignorant masses are seething with anger over what they call forced food aid," the daily said in an ironical editorial chastising the government for the agreement. It called for Sri Lanka to send food to India, where the press regularly reports starvation deaths. "It is the first time in history that food aid is being despatched to a country which has said it does not want it," Sri Lanka's biggest-circulation daily said.

Mr. Iriyagolle said Sri Lanka had compromised its sovereignty by agreeing to take aid and to whom it should be given. The aid, which India says should be the first of several shipments, is to go specifically to the Tamils in the worst-hit areas of the peninsula.

Mr. Iriyagolle said many people living in Moslem and Sinhalese-majority villages elsewhere in the Northern Province and in the eastern district of Trincomalee were suffering hardship because of the Tamil separatist struggle. "There is bound to be a strong local reaction in these other areas," he warned.

Sri Lankans are particularly against the government's "capitulation" to Indian demands since world opinion has condemned India for violating Sri Lankan airspace and its sovereignty with its June 4 air drop, he said. "India suffered a severe diplomatic setback with the air drop and perhaps for the first time in the Tamil problem international opinion was firmly on our side. But now those governments which rallied to us may even be confused by our acceptance of Indian aid."

Mr. Iriyagolle said the agreement could be seen abroad to imply that Indian charges of starvation and the killings of hundreds of civilians might be true after all.

Foreign Ministry Announces Indian Freighter Visit

BK231445 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1108 GMT 23 Jun 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 23 (*Lanka Puwath*) — The Indian freighter *Island Prides* will arrive at the port of Kankesanthurai (KKS), Jaffna Thursday morning carrying 498 tons of cargo comprising rice, flour, sugar, milk, medicines, kerosene etc. for distribution through multi-purpose co-operatives in the Jaffna Peninsula, a Sri Lankan Foreign Ministry spokesman told *Lanka Puwath* this afternoon. He said the motor vessel was due to leave the port of Madras tomorrow (Wednesday) morning and would arrive at the port of KKS in Jaffna 24 hours later on Thursday.

Once the ship arrives in port, the gift from India will be handed over to the government agent, Jaffna who will take charge of the cargo and distribute it through multi-purpose cooperatives in the Jaffna Peninsula, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Earlier, on June 4, India forcibly air-dropped about 20 tons of food and other items over Jaffna and in (?doing) so violated Sri Lanka's sovereignty and airspace.

Separatists Announce Cease-Fire

BK231444 Hong Kong AFP in English
1440 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Madras, India, June 23 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil guerrilla group announced Tuesday a temporary ceasefire in its war against government forces to allow distribution of Indian aid to the Tamils of the Jaffna Peninsula.

Anton Balasingham, political adviser to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), said: "The LTTE will cease all armed actions from the time the Indian food ship arrives in Jaffna until the provisions are distributed." [passage omitted]

Mr Balasingham asked the Sri Lankan Armed Forces to reciprocate the LTTE gesture and observe a ceasefire during distribution of the relief, decided by agreement between the Indian and Sri Lankan governments.

Cease-Fire Details Cited

BK231522 Hong Kong AFP in English
1506 GMT 23 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Madras, India, June 23 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil guerrilla group announced Tuesday a temporary ceasefire in its war against government forces to allow distribution of Indian aid to the Tamils of the Jaffna Peninsula. [passage omitted]

An LTTE news release said: "As a gesture of goodwill and humanism on the part of the Indian Government and people, relief assistance in the form of essential food items is being shipped to the Jaffna Peninsula. We wish to express our sincere gratitude for this humanitarian relief assistance to our people suffering from starvation. Our liberation movement will extend its fullest cooperation in the task of distribution of food items to the affected people."

It continued: "To ensure the success of India's mercy mission and to facilitate the orderly distribution of the relief aid, our liberation movement has decided to suspend all military operations during this period. Our military formations will cease all armed actions from the time the Indian relief ship arrives on the shores of our homeland until the food provisions are distributed.

"The LTTE hopes the Sri Lankan Armed Forces too will cease offensive operations during this period. At the same time we reserve our right to resist and defend our people if the Sri Lankan Armed Forces resort to offensive operations to obstruct the relief supplies from reaching the people."

The LTTE is the largest of five groups battling for a separate Tamil homeland in Sri Lanka's north and east. All groups maintain offices here.

Police Arrest 120 Members of Proscribed Party

BK240438 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
0417 GMT 24 Jun 87

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, June 23 (*Lanka Puwath*) — Since there has been imminent danger to the country's security by anti-government elements, the police in a pre-dawn operation conducted today, throughout the entire island arrested over 120 activists of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), a political party proscribed by the government soon after the July 1983 disturbances, a police spokesman told *Lanka Puwath*. He said among them were electoral leaders, district leaders and other group leaders.

According to the spokesman, action is being pursued to arrest other identified leaders of the JVP who are planning acts of violence and sabotage.

Among the crimes committed by the JVP during the past few months are the two bank robberies at Galgamuwa and Marandangahamula, estate pay roll robbery at Panwila, murder of university student leader Daya Pathirana, attack on the army camp at Pallekelle, attack on the airforce base, Katunayake and the attack on the Kotalawela Defence Academy, Ratmalana.

The spokesman said that in the course of arrests of JVP'ers, police in many parts of the island recovered explosives, firearms and documents containing sketches and plans of police and service establishments, sensitive installations such as power plants etc., and lists of names of persons targetted for attack by them. He added that in pursuance of these plans there was positive evidence that the JVP was responsible for many crimes. Many weapons removed from service establishments have been recovered by the police.

Initial investigations revealed that the same gang of JVP'ers are responsible for all crimes and these cases have been handled by the CID [Criminal Investigation Department]. In the course of investigations conducted by the CID over 30 persons who participated in these offences have been arrested and statements made by them have confirmed the original information that was made available that the JVP was planning acts of violence.

Security Minister Interviewed on Tamil Conflict

DW241125 Bonn DIE WELT in German 24 Jun 87 p 6

[Interview with Lalith Athulathmudali, Sri Lankan minister of national security, by Lalith Ganhewa in Munich; no date given]

[Text] *Die Welt*: In the conflict between Tamils and Singhalese, India has so far acted as a mediator. Do you think that it can continue to play that role even after having violated Sri Lankan territory?

Athulathmudali: Many people have asked that question. A mediator should not only appear fair, he should also be fair.

Die Welt: Would your government accept the establishment of buffer zones by UN troops in the event of an invasion by India?

Athulathmudali: I do not want to comment on hypotheses. We on our part will take the necessary steps to defend our sovereignty and integrity.

Die Welt: If the conflict were to escalate, would you ask friendly countries like Pakistan, Britain, or even the United States for help?

Athulathmudali: I do not want to go into details, but considering the situation in other countries, you may assume that we would react in a similar way.

Die Welt: If the situation escalated, and you asked friendly nations for help, that would lead to interference by the superpowers, would it not?

Athulathmudali: Yes, I think it would. If an invasion were to take place, it would be very difficult to prevent the conflict from escalating to an international confrontation.

Die Welt: In the beginning, there was only talk about terrorism in the north. Meanwhile, the prohibited JVP party (Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna - people's liberation party) also commits terrorist acts in the south.

Athulathmudali: Those are two different matters. It is easier for us to cope with the JVP problem because we were informed in time. The JVP has no support among the people.

Die Welt: To my knowledge, some people do support the JVP.

Athulathmudali: In the 1982 elections they got 4 percent of the vote — they would probably get less now. By their terrorist tactics the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) have at least managed to silence their compatriots. However, in the south that is not possible.

Die Welt: The JVP's resistance also has been registered in the Army, has it not?

Athulathmudali: There were some plots, and we have taken countermeasures. There is a rumor that there are about 3,000 resistance members in the Army. But that figure is not correct. We are on the alert.

Die Welt: But how does the government want to cope with resistance from two different directions?

Athulathmudali: I think we can. Anyway, we have no alternative. As for resistance in the south, we are supported by broad sectors of the people. And the people's support is increasing in our struggle against the LTTE. Many Tamils living in the areas controlled by the LTTE report horrible atrocities. For example, in the Vadamaharachi operation about 3 weeks ago, fleeing LTTE fighters gave hand grenades to small children, telling them to throw them on soldiers. If the Army had fired back, the LTTE could have claimed before the international public that government troops slaughter children. Fortunately, however, adults intervened and handed the grenades to the approaching soldiers.

Die Welt: How would the Sri Lankan Government react if the Indian Army helped the Tamils in Jaffna as a "protective power," so to speak, to hinder the further advance of government troops?

Athulathmudali: President Jayawardene has said that it would probably be difficult for a people of 15-16 million to defend themselves against the superior power of 750 million people. Therefore, we intend to pursue a policy that prepares all of the country for nonviolent defense against an invasion. In the event of an invasion by India, we want to proceed according to Mahatma Gandhi's tactics.

Die Welt: So you are holding some trump cards?

Athulathmudali: Yes, many, but we do not want to elaborate. We have made it clear that our main strategy consists in defending our country, not exclusively by means of force, but by nonviolent resistance according to Mahatma Gandhi's example. It should be extremely difficult for an invasion power to deal with 15 or 16 million unarmed people demonstrating quietly and peacefully. That would have a much greater effect than a few divisions. Any foreign power attempting to occupy Sri Lanka should know that the population is very mixed. The overwhelming majority of Tamils live among the Singhalese, and if an invasion were to take place in Sri Lanka the security of that majority of Tamils would constitute a serious problem.